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**Military Numismatics Seminar**  
**Scholarships Being Accepted**

The 17th Military Numismatics class will be conducted this summer. The class will be taught again by Joe Boling and Fred Schwan. The class will cover a wide array of the military numismatic material of World War II, MPC and other items of interest to Gramsters and collectors in general.

The greater community sponsors scholarships to the class.

Now is the time to apply for a scholarship!

To apply for a scholarship please submit the following information to Military Numismatists Scholarship, c/o Dan or Kathy Freeland, PO Box 195, Mayville, MI 48744, U.S.A. or [ksfdaf@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ksfdaf@sbcglobal.net)

Name  
Address  
Phone Number  
E-mail address  
Numismatic clubs in which you participate (include leadership positions held)  
Significant numismatic exhibits (and awards)  
Significant numismatic publications (and awards)  
Explain your interest in military numismatics.  
What do you hope to gain from attending this seminar?  
Describe contributions you can make to the success of the class.

The information you provide in your application is the ONLY information the reviewers will consider in evaluating applications. Scholarships will not be awarded simply because funding is available. You must submit a quality application to be seriously considered. Don't be afraid to brag about yourself!! This is a highly competitive program. Applications will be judged by an impartial committee. All decisions of the committee will be final.

Recipients are requested to volunteer for service to future scholarship programs and are expected to write at least one report of the experience for publication in a numismatic journal. Award of a scholarship includes the likelihood of publishing your name and some general background information.

Please have applications in the hands of the Freelands by **March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2018**. For applicants outside the US requiring invitations for visas, please coordinate your needs with the scholarship chairman early.

**Making donations to the scholarship fund:** Donations of numismatic items and cash are gladly accepted to support these scholarships. Items donated will be auctioned at MPC Fest 19(May 4<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> , 2018, Port Clinton, Ohio) or on eBay. Monetary donations can be sent to:

Military Numismatists Scholarship Fund  
c/o Dan or Kathy Freeland  
PO Box 195  
Mayville, MI 48744  
U.S.A

Please make checks payable to "**Military Numismatists Scholarship Fund.**" Donations are not tax deductible.

Show Report

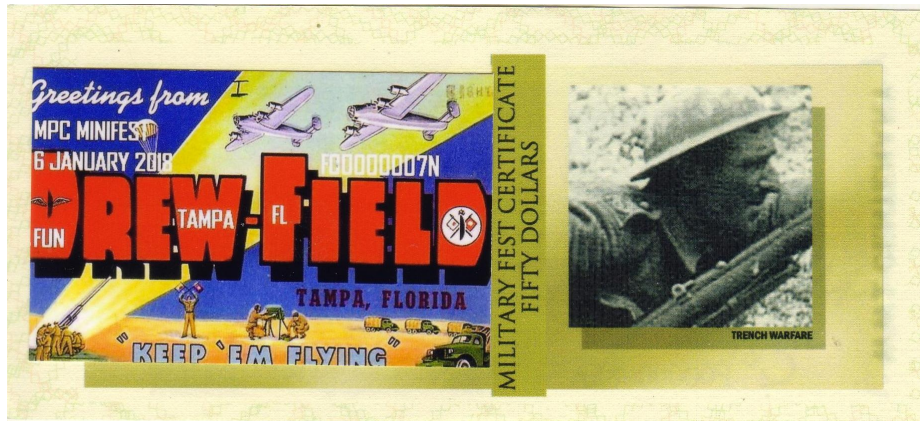
**Tampa FUN 2018**

by Bill Myers

I arrived in Tampa on Wednesday 3 January after an uneventful flight. I set up my exhibits that evening and headed back to the hotel. I was met with cooler weather than I was used to in AZ. Considering the cold weather covering the nation at that time it was probably an improvement for most of the attendees.

## Romona and Steve Feller

On Thursday I hit the bourse at opening to start the hunt for items on my want list. The theme of FUN was "MARCH TO FUN," which was with the US flag on the pin and medal handed out for the show. At the opening ceremony the national anthem was played and no one took a knee!



FUN Mini Fest Note



On Saturday 6 January there was an after the IBNS meeting where Joe Boling received a plaque recognizing him as an Honorary Director for Life. It was followed by a MPC mini-fest with 10 attendees. Attending were Joe & Louise Boling, John Phipps, Mike Buckley, FUN Ambassadors Ray & Steve Feller, new fester Ramona Feller, Dave Frank and guest, and myself. Pay was received by those who attended which was a series 141 \$50 MFC with a serially numbered validation stamp that was an authentic replica of a post card from Drew Field in Tampa. Drew Field was established in June 1941 as the Army Aircraft Warning Training Center. The early Air Defense consisted of civilian Ground Observers and Army ground units trained in the primitive radar available at the time. The mission was transferred to Hamilton Field, CA in February 1945.

I did see festers Bob Jaques and Mike Buckley on the bourse and there were sightings of Jack Lippincott at the show but I did not see him. Roger Urce got snowed in and could not make it to the show.

Brett Irick received the first place award for his exhibit "Fremont Ohio Civil War Store Cards" and I received third place for "Elongated Cents from Davis-Monthan Air Force Base."



I found some items I was looking for at the show and some I was not looking for including a transportation token for the US Navy from San Francisco, CA and Camp Polk, LA (I participated in JROTC at Fort Polk). Overall it was a weak show for me. I do not know if it was the location, but I heard that the show will be in Orlando for the next 8 years.

## How Many Replacements?

by Fred Schwan

Numismatists love and expect to know how many pieces were manufactured and issued for the objects of their desire. Such data are nearly a birth right. For MPC collectors we are fortunate to have very robust data on how many regular issue certificates were printed. We assume that a high proportion of those printed were issued, but big questions remain.

We do not have such good data (in fact hardly any official data) on how many specimens and replacements were printed. It is because of this dearth of data that we have worked so hard over the decades to record and analyse serial numbers.

We have found some new documents that will help us with these matters. Found in an interesting word. These documents were found in my office (aka black hole). I believe that the document in question today was available for the fourth edition of the MPC book.. I am not sure if I had misplaced it, not even read it, or not understood the significance at the time. Nevertheless, we now have the opportunity to study and use it.

The document is a letter dated August 21. 1951 from Forbes Lithograph Mfg. Co. to the BEP. You have guessed that the letter relates to MPC production and you are correct. This letter is talking about the numbering for replacements for the third printing based on the experience factor for the second printing.

Dear Mr. Shreve:

The numbering charts for the new order of Military Payment Certificates have been received.

We call to your attention the fact on the Replacement Notes there will be a gap in the sequence following contract TEP 4687 on your order #2304 and the new order. This was due to running only as much stock as was necessary for replacements which, in no instance, we up to the 8000 sheets allowed within the range of each chart for each denomination.

Experience Record of Numbering Replacements TEP 4687. [second printing]

Denom	Notes on	sheets allowed	sheets printed
10	50	8000	1500
5	50	8000	500
1	70	8000	1000
.50	84	8000	300
.25	84	8000	400
.10	84	8000	700
.05	84	8000	700

We shall follow the new numbering charts as established and furnished.

Very truly yours,

FORBES LITHOGRAPH MFG. COMPANY

//signed//

E. E. Peterson

I am sure that you recognize the importance of this information and are as excited as I am. Here are some of my first thoughts. Forbes was concerned that there would be a gap in the numbering sequence for replacements! The assumption of 8000 sheets being allocated for routine replacement printings is confirmed. We now know how many replacements were printed for the second printing of Series 481 and can make some better estimates for the other printings and even other series.

Of course we want to be careful about making assumptions. Fortunately (even excitedly), we have some other data to compare--the replacement survey! As you know, from the serial number we can calculate the sheet number whence the replacement came and we have been recording MPC replacement serial numbers for more than thirty years. It has been fun if a bit tedious, but now we have a real use for the data. It was little noted, but for the fourth edition of the MPC book we calculated the respective sheet numbers for every reported replacement and listed the sheet number with the respective replacement.

The comparisons are wonderful. First we will consider only the three lowest denominations because we have far more reports in our sample. The number of sheets based upon observed serial numbers compared to the number of sheets reported by Forbes is remarkable. I am sure that you will agree.

	Forbes Survey		
.25	400	376	94%
.10	700	596	85%
.05	700	618	88%

I think that with your help, we can learn more from the letter and the survey. I suspect that there are some opportunities for statistical analysis and likely things that I have not even thought of. I look forward to your thoughts.

### **Editorial**

The days, weeks, months even years and decades seem to fly by. Simultaneously, the projects pile up. Somehow they seem to multiply creating chaos. This is my way of apologizing for another long delay between Grams. The good news is that this is a really great Gram. It includes something for just about everyone I think.

I plan to have another Gram out soon (yes, you have heard it before). We have many more things to report on developing stories. We will have some important news about the Fest in the next issue.

The lead story is the announcement of the application period for Summer Seminar scholarships. If you are interested in a scholarship, it is very important to submit your application in a timely manner. The offering of the military class this summer is a result of the implementation of an alternate year plan for this class. It was not offered in 2017 but will be this year. The idea is that the alternate year format will allow additional time to raise money for scholarships and development of good student candidates.

I believe that the great majority of students who have attended the class have been pleased so I feel confident in encouraging you to attend the Summer Seminar (whether or not you apply for a scholarship).

## Letters to the editor

Letters are welcome on a wide variety of topics relating to military numismatics. We run most mail received, but it might be late and it might be edited a bit. Thank you for your mail.

Dear Gram,

First - thanks for MPC Gram! I am a novice at best but like to learn.  
Second - you asked for suggestions regarding a new edition of the MPC book. I don't understand why the WW2 notes - like the one Seelye is offering - are not part of the book? So my suggestion would be to include these pieces from various countries - France, Germany, Italy, etc.  
Last - and I assume others have already pointed this out - you have a typo directing folks to page 244 rather than 224 for the 651 Series.

Thanks,

Steve in West Virginia

Dear Mr. Virginia,

Thank you for writing. You were the first response regarding my plea for ideas etc for MPC5. Since you say that you are a novice, do you know the book *World War II Remembered*? That book was the basis of the MPC books and has the most detailed coverage ever of Allied military currency. So, the direct answer to your question is that the book covers only MPC and the AMC issues are not MPC though many people think that they are.

Since the title of the book could be changed, the greater question is should a book be created covering MPC AND AMC? Certainly, I believe that there should be a book length treatment of AMC. Indeed I have a draft of such a book! Unfortunately, I am not at all sure that I will ever finish it. After MPC5 we plan on (finally) having a second edition of *WWII Remembered*.

As a novice, I would like your opinions on many things in MPC4 in preparation for MPC5. To you and everyone else too, what would be the number one thing that you would fix, correct, modify or otherwise change for MPC5? Author is not an acceptable answer!

Steve, thank you for writing. We look forward to your next missive. Any chance that we will see you at MPC Fest 19?

### Training Schedule (Gram Calendar)

The Gram calendar is different from most numismatic calendars. We strive to list events that are of specific interest to Gramsters. This does not mean that we will not list general coin or paper money shows, but there should be something of special interest to collectors of military numismatic items. We will be happy to list non traditional events if they meet the special interest criteria.

## 2018

**March 23** The Waukesha Coin Club will hold its 49th Annual Coin Show on Sunday 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the New Berlin Ale House, 16000 W. Cleveland Avenue, New Berlin, WI

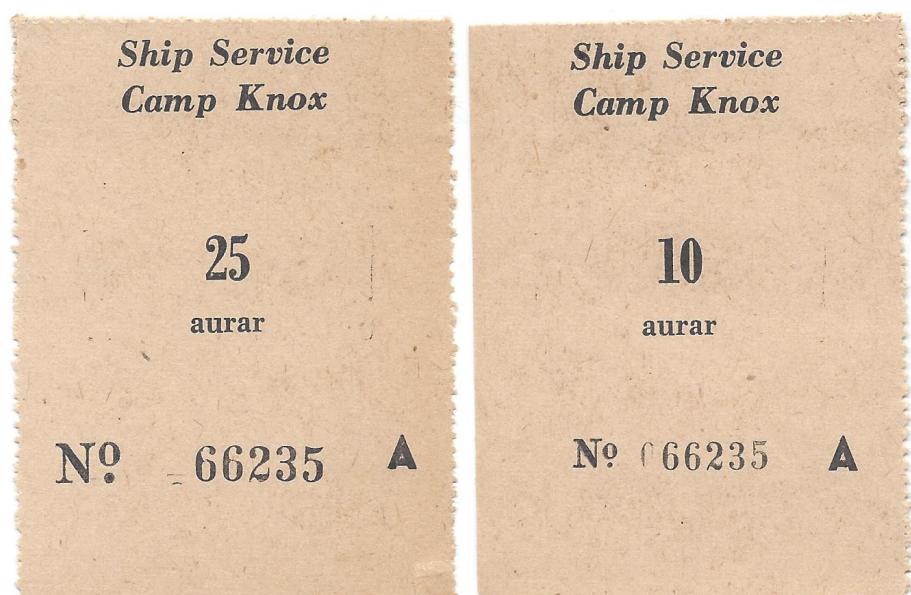
As in past years, Fester Dave Hunsicker will have a table at the show and Fester John Watta will be the MC of the show. In past years some Festers like Neil Shafer and Karen Jach have found time to attend the show. We hope any other Festers in the area can join us at this year's show. For more information, go to: [www.waukeshacoinclub.com](http://www.waukeshacoinclub.com)

**May 4-6** MPCFest 19. Holiday Inn Express, 50 NE Catawba Road, Port Clinton, OH 43452. Reservations call Kim at 419 732 7322. Chat or questions call Fred at 419 349 1872.

## Gram Exchange



*Do you have something for sale (or trade)? You can offer these items here in the Gram Exchange. Send your text and images (!) to the editor for inclusion in the Gram Exchange.*



**Camp Knox Iceland offered for sale subject to prior sale by David Seelye. Contact [davideseelye@gmail.com](mailto:davideseelye@gmail.com) 585-305-4848 for price and availability.**

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### **MPCFest 19**

MPCFest will sponsor its most ambitious post Fest trip ever--Museum Fest. Interested Festers will visit the United States Air Force Museum in Dayton on Monday May 7 and Motts Military Museum in Columbus, Ohio on May 8 (<http://mottsmilitarymuseum.org/>). Short visits might also be made to the Liberty Aviation Museum (Port Clinton) and a few others still under consideration. They will return to the Holiday Inn Express in Port Clinton for the evening of May 8.

Festers will travel by rental vehicle, stay overnight in Columbus and share all expenses. Interested Festers are asked to speak up.

### **How Many Replacements--Part 2**

by Fred Schwan

In Number 2349 we introduced and discussed the amazing letter of August 21, 1951 from Forbes Litho to the BEP regarding the printing of replacements for the third printing of Series 481. This is a remarkable and important document for our studies.

Since that report I have been thinking more about what the letter tells us. In Part 1, we stressed the lower fractional denominations. That was because we have a substantial number of serial numbers that have been confirmed in collections. I have been thinking about the higher denominations.

What can we learn with few or no reports from collections? We reported in the fourth edition that an average issue rate of 1% of the total printing can be expected for MPC replacements. This is a somewhat controversial figure. Until the Forbes letter, the estimates that we have had from the BEP have always been for modern Federal Reserve Notes. Joe has always maintained that it is difficult if not impossible to compare replacement rates for MPC and FRNs. His basic argument is that since FRNs are printed by intaglio the replacement rate should be higher than an expected rate for MPC printed by lithography. While I certainly understand and agree with that theory, I point out that since the quantities are much higher for FRNs than MPC which would reverse the expectations, In my view, we can consider that the two factors (technology vs quantity) cancel each other and use the 1% figure for MPC.

The Forbes letter is the answer. Below are the percentages of replacements for the second printing as reported by Forbes.

5 cents 1.4%  
10 cents 1.4%  
25 cents .6%



50 cents .5%  
\$1 .5%  
\$5 1.25%  
\$10 1.25%

In my view, these figures certainly support the idea of 1% being a good rule of thumb. Before I get too complacent (or smug), these data seem to be trying to tell us something else. My assumption above is that lower productions should have higher expected waste rates. Do the data support this assumption?

The lower two fractional denominations have substantially higher regular issue productions than the higher two denominations. Therefore, according by my assumption above we might expect a difference in the expected waste rate. The problem is that the higher production denominations have the higher rate. What am I missing?

There is more. The \$1 and \$10 denominations have very similar productions at 6.16 and 6 million respectively. Should they have similar expected waste? Yes, but of course there is an obvious difference. Equal printings of these two denominations will have different number of sheets because the 10s have 50 notes per sheet verses 70 for the \$1 denomination. While true and the direction of a sheet-size adjustment is as anticipated, the magnitude does not seem right. Sooooo, I think that the letter is telling us some more. As I asked at the beginning. What am I missing?

## **Editorial**

I attended a small militaria show in Toledo (actually Rossford) last week. It is held twice a year. I try to attend them all. I always have fun and I usually find a few things. If I do not find any artifacts, I usually find a book or two. I found both this time.

First to the numismatics I found a small group of AMC among some paper items. Nothing apparently exciting. I made the seller an offer that was considerably below what he said he wanted. I doubled my offer to something still well under his asking price and he agreed.

The only important thing in the lot was a 100 mark counterfeit. I really like it and was quite proud of myself for finding it.

The other thing was a book: *American Nightingale* by Bob Welch. It is the story of Frances Slinger. I bought the book on Saturday afternoon and finished it on Sunday evening. I really enjoyed it. Lt Slinger was a US Army nurse. She and her associates went ashore on Normandy on D+4. We have discussed before here the idea of when did the first woman go ashore after (or unlikely on) D-Day. This is the earliest case that I have found. The author did not stress that these were the first women, but it is the earliest that I have heard of.

In trying to decide if I needed to issue a spoiler alert on the following, I reviewed the dust jacket of the book and find that it is divulged there that Lt. Slinger was killed in action in France. She was the first woman KIA in France.

Of course I watched like a hawk for numismatic references to justify a review here. There were darn few. There were a few mentions of poker games, but not enough detail to be important. The best that I can come up with is mention of Lt Slinger's Purple Heart. Of course she earned some other medals too, but the Purple Heart was mentioned in particular. I wonder where her PH (or her entire group) are. Certainly that would be a spectacular item for the Army Nurse Corps to have in its (assumed to me) museum or perhaps even better in the US Army

Museum.

### Letters to the editor

Letters are welcome on a wide variety of topics relating to military numismatics. We run most mail received, but it might be late and it might be edited a bit. Thank you for your mail.

Dear Gram,

I hope all is well with you and Judy ("The Boss"). I have a suggestion regarding the presentations at FEST. Before we start the presentations Joe scrambles to load all the presentations on to his laptop. My suggestion is that we e-mail our presentations to Joe before FEST so he can load them at his leisure. I have mine ready go!

I don't have an e-mail address for Joe. If you, and communicating with Joe, think this might work you could publish the process in the next GRAM.

Stay warm!

John

Dear John,

Thank you for your mail. Your basic point is valid, but it is not new. A few presenters (briefers) in the past have sent their programs to Joe ahead of time. However, we certainly did not push that idea enough. So, in addition to mentioning the idea here, we will include the notice and Joe's address in the Fest coordinating items that appear in the Gram (and else where). So, send your program announcement to the training officer (Ray Feller, assisted by Steve Feller (rayfeller@gmail.com)) and the electronic version of the program to joebling@aol.com.

Editor

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### 2018

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or [ksfdaf@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ksfdaf@sbcglobal.net)

Name

Address

Phone Number

E-mail address

Numismatic clubs in which you participate (include leadership positions held)

Significant numismatic exhibits (and awards)

Significant numismatic publications (and awards)

Explain your interest in military numismatics.

What do you hope to gain from attending this seminar?

Describe contributions you can make to the success of the class.

The information you provide in your application is the ONLY information the reviewers will consider in evaluating applications. Scholarships will not be awarded simply because funding is available. You must submit a quality application to be seriously considered. Don't be afraid to brag about yourself!! This is a highly competitive program. Applications will be judged by an impartial committee. All decisions of the committee will be final.

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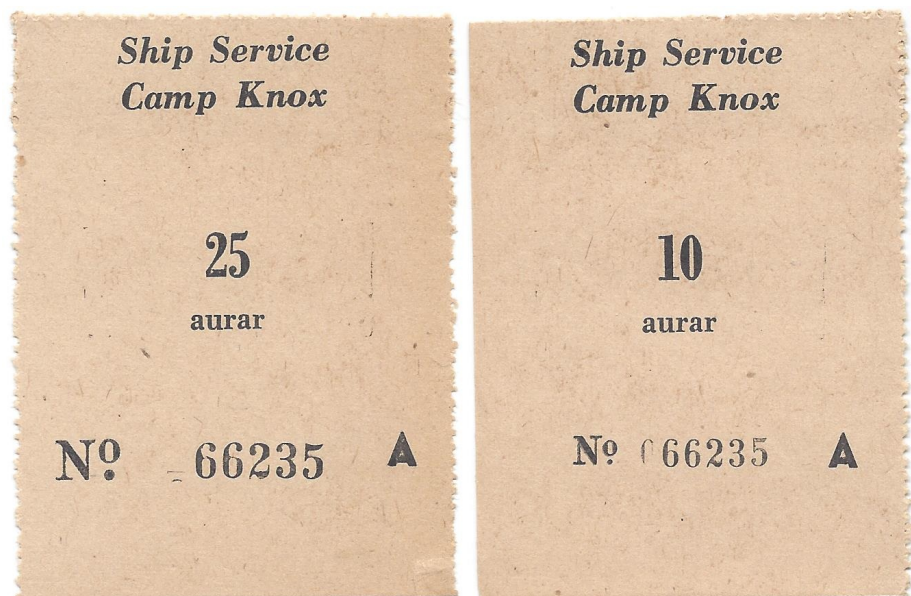
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Reservations call Kim at 419 732 7322. Chat or questions call Fred at 419 349 1872.

Program submissions: RayFeller@gmail.com. Send approved electronic programs to JoeBolilng@aol.com.

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**Camp Knox Iceland offered for sale subject to prior sale by David Seelye. Contact** [davideseelye@gmail.com](mailto:davideseelye@gmail.com) 585-305-4848 for price and availability.

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### Show Report and Ivory Coast

by Larry Smulczenski

[Editor's note: Larry submitted this show report in June (2017). Somehow your editor lost control of and forgot it. Only today did Larry (gentleman that he is) gently complain about it. He wanted to revise the report so that it did not seem dated. However, we (I, your editor) felt that it is better to share his full report. Sorry, Ski.]

Well, KC 1 is over. Had a great time talking with old friends, looking at notes, and between the Auction and the floor brought home some good and some great items. Thirty-nines came at me from all directions, overseas to close to home. The KC airport leaves a lot to be desired especially if you fly in on Southwest. I thought I was in the basement when I got off the plane, but this was also the departure area. No city welcome or huge group of eateries like you see in DFW, Chicago or Detroit, even Dallas Love Field is more friendly. The Sheridan Hotel and Convention Center was a different story. Great hotel accommodations, but pricey, with huge convention hall that was very roomy. As usual between meetings, presentations and the 5 o'clock auction, there are more tables to visit than you have time for. But it was a great extended weekend.



I want to talk about one of the notes I was able to purchase in from the great assortment of outstanding notes in the Lyn Knight auction of world paper money. Several years ago, late in the year 2000, Tony Pisciotta held an auction of an Africa collection put together by a South California collector. I was able to purchase a nice example of the 2 franc note from the Ivory Coast picturing the head of an elephant in yellow on the face. This is the high value of a three note series that reside under French Colonies in *WWII Remembered*. I have always liked this note and enjoyed looking at it for three reasons. First, it is a difficult note to find in either an auction or with a dealer at a large numismatic show. Second, Fred always said when the topic arose that he wanted one of the notes but never had a chance to buy one and Finally, this 2 franc was the plate note in *WWII Remembered* and at that time also the plate note in Pick. In the 12th edition of Pick *General Issues*, a new serial

numbered 2 franc note was substituted for my note and I don't know why because it doesn't look any better than mine. I don't remember kicking one of the editors in the knee prior to publication of that catalog but who knows.

While reviewing the KC World Auction when it was placed on the internet, the 1 franc Ivory Coast note with the yellow elephant head just jumped right out at me. I knew that I had to at least make an effort to add it to my collection. It wasn't a gem note, in fact it had a number of flaws, but when you haven't seen one in twenty some years then the 63's, 64's even 59's or 20's don't mean a damn thing. It had a paper clip rust stain at the nine o'clock position, a 3mm circular rust stain just to the right of bottom center and below the FR of the word FRANC. A light half inch area that looks like a dirt stain just to the left of the top of the elephant's head and another very small stain in the upper left corner. There is a center fold and also a small quarter inch margin tear at the 10 o'clock position. With all its faults, this guy that used to want nothing but UNC notes wanted this one.

The 5 o'clock auction didn't start until approximately 5:30 due to internet problems. Many of the high ticket items seemed to find little interest on either the floor, the book or on Knight Live, so got passed while other notes that I didn't care for had plenty of interest. I picked up a couple of lots along the way and at about 8 o'clock (plus or minus) we closed in on the Ivory Coast 1 franc note with the yellow elephant head. Bidding opened with Knight Live, the book and me. Knight Live was a quick casualty and it settled down to me and the book, the book and I, back and forth. Finally, I heard "the book's done" and with one more bid the lot was mine. That night's auction was over for me and I enthusiastically hustled out the room and ran (read that as tried to run or maybe as a joyful, spirited walk) about a quarter mile to where Roger Urce and Brian Giese were waiting for me to have dinner.

Fast forward a couple of days, I now have the two notes sitting on my desk, side by side and they look really great. I pick up my copy of *WWII Remembered* to put a little mark by the S/B number as I do with every note in my collection. I happen to look at the picture of the 1 franc note in the book and "WOW," this note that I just bought is also the plate note in *WWII Remembered*. I'm shocked, but the two notes before me bought 17 years apart are now reunited. I read through the text in the book one more time and found out the old saying that "you have to read the small print" is very true. There at the very bottom of the Ivory Coast section was a very tiny statement that says "Illustrations courtesy of Mel Steinberg and Son." I swear I had never seen this before, in fact as I look at it right now it just looks like a straight line. Anyway, I had to call Jeremy Steinberg and see if possibly he could remember these two notes from 25 to 30 years ago when he was just learning from his dad. Fat chance, huh? Naturally he qualified answers by saying he couldn't positively say, but he did remember a southern California collector who was strongly buying quality Africa notes and purchased a number of them from Mel. Mel was very meticulous about grading and pricing and kept pictures or scans of many of the better notes he handled. When illustrations were needed for *WWII Remembered*, Mel freely offered any that he could provide. He also would have offered and possibly sold the two notes to the Southern California collector. However, Jeremy indicated that this collector for some reason lost interest in banknotes and sold his entire collection. My mind naturally switched to Tony Pisciotto and the Africa Collection Auction of 2000. I called and Tony confirmed that he bought the Africa Collection from the same Southern California collector that Jeremy and I had talked about, but there was no 1 franc Ivory Coast elephant note in the collection.

That simply means that we know the lineage of the 2 franc note but there is a unknown in the ownership of the 1 franc note. If Mel Steinberg did indeed own the pair at one time and I firmly believe he did since he provided the illustrations for the book, then either the Southern California collector did not buy both because he objected to the flaws I pointed out previously or he bought it and then sold it to someone else. I tend to believe that he passed on the note since any collector that buys a filler note would keep it until he found a better note rather than selling it and having a hole in the series. Mel then probably sold it to another collector. It is an interesting story and all that I know or think at this time. If you can add anything contact me at skitex@yahoo.com or pass it along thru the Gram. Uncovering information like this is why this is such a great hobby.

## Editorial

The Gram is an amazing thing. The service that we use to distribute the Gram (Mail Chimp) allows us to monitor readers opening their Grams. Within moments--certainly less than a minute--Gramsters start looking at their Grams. Beyond that it is interesting that the total number who open their Grams is nearly constant, but it takes several days before the readers catch up. It is also common for me to receive an email response or phone call within a few minutes of sending a Gram.

We have been very fortunate to have major research discoveries announced here and many small finds as well. There is some randomness to the interaction. Some times with a major discovery, we anticipate lots of response, but get nothing. Other times we expect nothing and get pleasantly surprised (see Downey letter below).

We have been adding a few subscribers recently. Usually, we have no way to determine whence the subscribers come to us, but



recently we have identified them coming via the efforts of David Seelye. We should all follow his lead and recruit more subscribers. There is a link at the end of every Gram than can be used to add a subscriber to our list. That is the best method, but you or the subscriber may also send the email address to me for addition.

### **Letters to the editor**

Letters are welcome on a wide variety of topics relating to military numismatics. We run most mail received, but it might be late and it might be edited a bit. Thank you for your mail.

Dear Gram,

Thank you for mentioning nurse 2LT Frances Slanger. I read her story on the US Army History Museum website <https://armyhistory.org/second-lieutenant-frances-slanger-army-nurse-corps/> . I found the Welch biography, American Nightingale, at my city library and requested a hold on it. (It will be sent from central to my neighborhood branch.)

Mike Marotta

Dear Gram,

Frances Slanger's Purple Heart is at the Howard Gottlieb Memorial Archival Research Center in Boston. Also please note that mail sent to my old email address will not be delivered. Please use only: mufelika@charter.net,

Jim Downey

Dear Jim,

Wow, what a great find! Thank you for your great work. Aside to everyone else, Jim is just great at this type of research!

Editor

### **Training Schedule (Gram Calendar)**

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### **2018**

**March 10.** Deadline for scholarship applications to the military summer seminar. To apply for a scholarship please submit the following information to Military Numismatists Scholarship, c/o Dan or Kathy Freeland, PO Box 195, Mayville, MI 48744, U.S.A. or [ksfdaf@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ksfdaf@sbcglobal.net)

Name

Address

Phone Number

E-mail address

Numismatic clubs in which you participate (include leadership positions held)

Significant numismatic exhibits (and awards)

Significant numismatic publications (and awards)

Explain your interest in military numismatics.

What do you hope to gain from attending this seminar?

Describe contributions you can make to the success of the class.

The information you provide in your application is the ONLY information the reviewers will consider in evaluating applications.

Scholarships will not be awarded simply because funding is available. You must submit a quality application to be seriously considered. Don't be afraid to brag about yourself!! This is a highly competitive program. Applications will be judged by an impartial committee. All decisions of the committee will be final.

Recipients are requested to volunteer for service to future scholarship programs and are expected to write at least one report of the experience for publication in a numismatic journal. Award of a scholarship includes the likelihood of publishing your name and some general background information.

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Korea MPC series 2 10 cents decent F-VF Scarce \$350

Price includes free domestic shipping. [davideseeleye@gmail.com](mailto:davideseeleye@gmail.com) [585-305-4848](tel:585-305-4848)

**Offered for sale subject to prior sale by David Seelye.**

**Contact** [davideseeleye@gmail.com](mailto:davideseeleye@gmail.com) 585-305-4848.

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**Fest yearbook editor and photographers:** Kris and Cuneyd Tolek  
- ctolek@yahoo.com

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### **Fest Auction**

By Dave Frank, auctioneer

We are 7 weeks before MPC Fest XVIII and it is time to begin consigning lots to the auction to be held at the Fest on Sunday May 6th. The success of the auction depends on consignments and I am looking for them now. Basically you may submit as many lots that you want, there is no seller's fee. Lots can be submitted for sale or as a donation to the Fest scholarship fund. Remember that the money raised from donated lots fund the scholarships to send interested collectors to the Military Numismatics basic and advanced courses at the ANA Summer Seminar in Colorado Springs. The Military Numismatics courses will be offered this year, it's important to raise funds to send as many interested people as we can so that they will continued to be offered. Since I am flying to the Fest and will have limited room to carry items I would appreciate it if you would send me a description of the lot with the minimum bid and designate whether it is to be a donated lot or one you wish to sell. Then please bring the lot with you to the Fest and I will collect them on Thursday or Friday of the Fest. If you are not coming to the Fest, but wish to submit lots, please contact me and I will provide further instructions. I really need the lot information sent to me no later than one week prior to the Fest so that I can produce a catalog that will appear in the Gram and it can be included in the packet for distribution at the Fest. My contact email and cell is [dave@frankcomputers.com](mailto:dave@frankcomputers.com) and 314-602-4228.

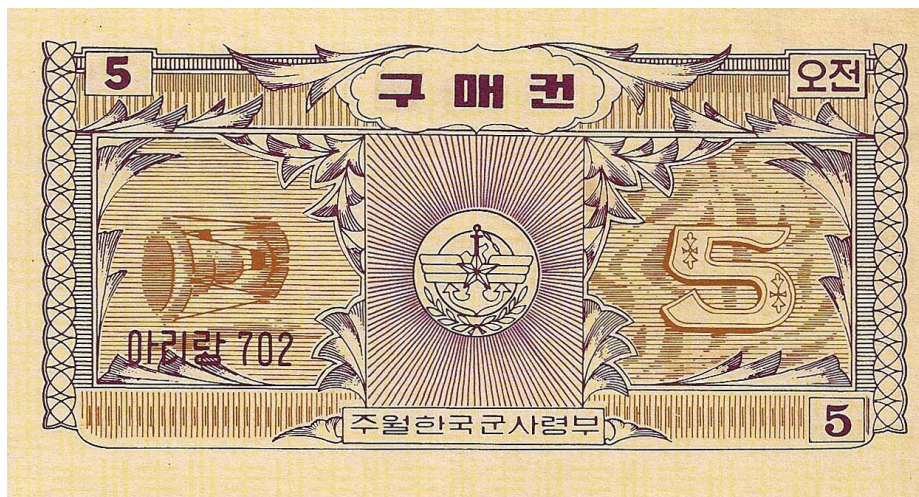
Thanks and let's have another great auction.

Olympic Research

by Fred Schwan

Larry and I have hoped to upgrade the listings of the MPC coupons for the fifth edition. We have hoped it for quite a while. We have even worked on it some! Actually we have made many improvements that you will like. We have some new data and images, but much remains to be done.





Please consider the above note. I certainly hope that you recognize it as a second series Korean coupon. As coupons go, this is not an extremely rare it. On the other hand this is a real beautiful example. Most come in low grades. What is the vignette at left? I have seen it identified as a spacecraft.

Larry set out to correctly identify this vignette. According to his report, he spent a lot of time on the research at about five minutes per session. Ultimately, he found the answer. The vignette is a traditional Korean drum. Once you look at the image below, it is obvious.



### Editorial

The Olympics are over and the Fest is fast approaching. Please consider the request for auction material described above and save up some money too so that you can buy some things for your collection and support the important scholarship program too! I have heard some rumors about interesting things that are likely to be in the auction.

The auction is the key fund raising vehicle for the scholarship program that has sent 40 people to the Military Numismatics Summer Seminar. This is an important and unique program. Thank you for your support.

The next Gram will focus on educational opportunities at the Fest. Everyone wants to hear about your finds and research since last year. Fest details are developing Fast. Stay tuned for important announcements. Most of all, if you have not called Kim to make a reservation--call now: 419 732 7322.

### Letters to the editor

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Dear Editor,

On Hogan's Heroes tonight Klink was in charge of raising money for German Winter Relief. Interesting that something that obscure would appear on that show.

JAD

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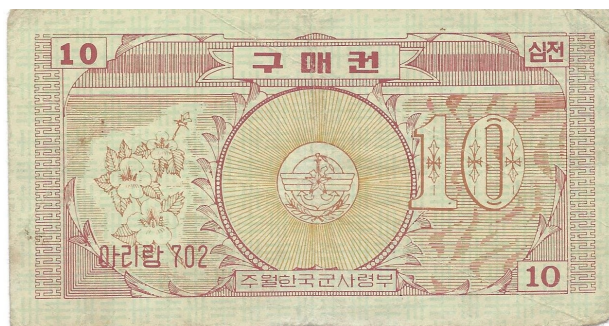
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Ian Marshall has a new World Paper Money Stock List. Write to him for a copy at [papernorth@yahoo.ca](mailto:papernorth@yahoo.ca) Lots of great Military items in it!



Korea MPC series 2 10 cents decent F-VF Scarce \$350

Price includes free domestic shipping. [davideseelye@gmail.com](mailto:davideseelye@gmail.com) [585-305-4848](tel:585-305-4848)

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## Discovery and Auction Highlight

by Jim Downey

I have always had a fascination with the Series 692 \$20.00 missing print error. The note is especially meaningful to me as correctly identifying it in March Madness put me into the finals at MPCFest V in 2004.

If you don't know the note, it is written up extensively in the fourth edition of the MPC catalog and an example is illustrated here. It is missing the framing and the blue underprinted words DOLLARS and MPC.



In 2003 when the MPC catalog was last published two examples were known in private hands. Rumor has it another has also been identified. The known notes were all from the same sheet with serial numbers ending in 027.

It is the type of error that would be easy to miss. I have imagined the "eureka" moment when I would cherry-pick one from an unwitting dealer's stock.

A few months ago a colleague, oklahomadanny, (a Gramster but not yet a Fester despite years of gentle prodding) posted a note in an online discussion forum and asked if others could figure out what was so special about it. I recognized it immediately as one of the Series 692 \$20.00 errors.

When I got home from work I checked my MPC catalog and verified the note was consistent with those in the catalog. I contacted the Danny and began my quest to pry it loose from his hands.

After further contact with Danny he told me the story of how he acquired it. He found it in plain sight as an Ebay buy-it-now in the MPC category. I, along with many others, missed out.

After weeks of negotiation I am pleased to announce that I have the opportunity to acquire the note pictured above. And so do you. Danny



has agreed to consign it to the auction at Fest XIX.

## **Call for Training Programs**

Ray and Steve Feller



Fester at MPCFest XIX are invited to present a briefing to the assembled throng. The program can be on any aspect of military numismatics.

## **Fest XIX Theme**

The theme for MPCFest XIX (2018) will be Mediterranean Theater of World War II operations. Briefings should emphasise the numismatic aspects of the subject though the historic context is also important. Electronic images are desirable.

Briefers should submit proposals to the Fest training officers promptly. Include the title and a few sentence description of the proposal for inclusion in the training program. Send your proposals to RayFeller@gmail.com with an info copy to SFeller@coe.edu.

As always briefers will be rewarded for their efforts.

## **Editorial**

I just sent the previous Gram. I am hitting me head with my fist and laughing simultaneously. I forgot several things relative to the report on the vignette of the Korean drum on the MPC coupons. The report was meant to be a timely news item. This is because in addition to Larry's research many of us saw a performance featuring about 20 of these drums! They appeared in the opening ceremony of the Olympics! The closing ceremony also included images that could have come directly from MPC coupons, but more on that another time.

Please send your Fest presentation descriptions to the training officers. They submitted the request many weeks ago so it is my fault that the solicitation is being make late. I am sure that no one is surprised by this! Nonetheless, get them in. Do not count on being able to add presentations this year as we are going to be crowded with really excellent briefings!

The lead story about the \$20 error certificate is quite exciting. These are great notes. This is obvious, but the most special part is that these errors were officially recognised by finance officers while the notes were

in circulation and the teletype message calling for the removal of the errors from circulation not only still exists, but is also in collector hand. It will be a thrill to see and examine this note. The fact it will be in the Fest auction is really exciting. I can hardly wait!

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JAD

Dear Jim,

Yes, it seems rather an amazing thing to make it into a comedy show. Sharp eye, thanks.

Editor

Dear Honorable Editor ,

Just to advise ..... The Roman numeral for NINETEEN ( 19 ) is " XIX." Not " XVIII " .....

Also, I understand that a new edition of THE mpc book is in the offing. When can we look forward to it?

Kevin Maloy

Dear Kevin,

Thank you. We thought that it might be XiX or perhaps xIx. In this day and age, we thought that we were able to select our own. You should be particularly appreciative of this approach since in a certain Western state gender selection is an option.

If we do not see you at Fest xIx, you simply must come to Fest VVVV!

Re MPC5, hm. Well I am indeed working on it. It was promised for the Fest. Fest 18 then 19. It will be out before Fest 20. Probably it will be out this Summer, but some other projects are pushing their ways to the top of the pile. One problem has been all of the wonderful new stuff that I have to put in! You will like it! Also, this means that any and all with ideas and suggestions should shout out now!

Editor

Dear Editor,

Joe and I will be participating in the Post Fest Museum Tour.

Louise

Dear Louise,

Great! Thanks for writing you have been added to the list for the PFMT! Anyone who plans to attend should reserve a spot. Space will be limited. It should be a hoot.

Editor

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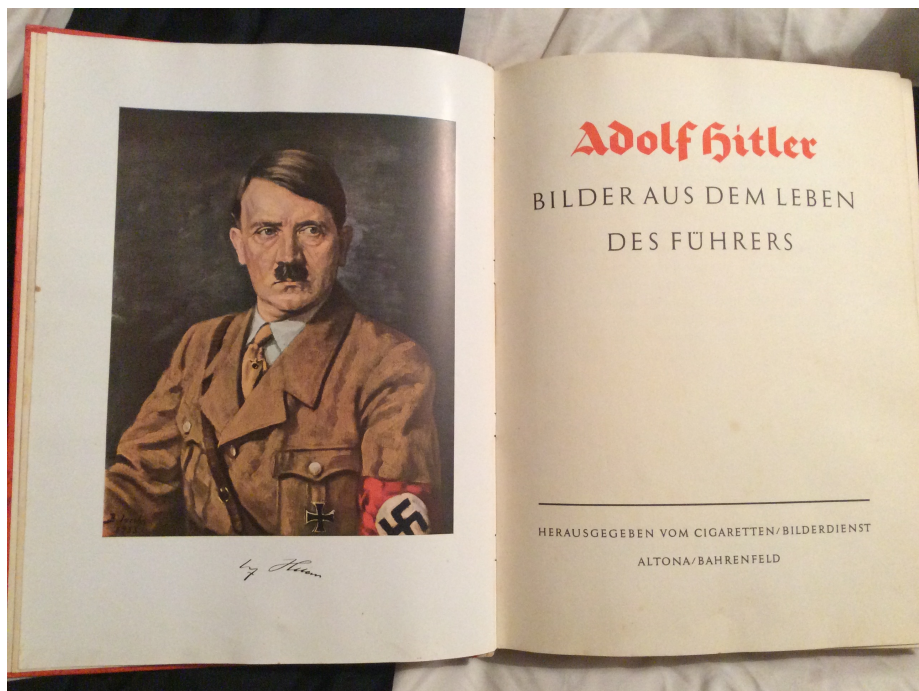
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Rare Original Third Reich cigarette album of Adolf Hitler, subtitled "pictures of the life of the Führer". Complete with no pages missing with a foreword by Dr. Joseph Goebbels. All photos are coming from the Hoffman Studio in Munich (Heinrich Hoffman was Hitler's personal photographer). 256 photos in this book!

Offering it at US\$180 + shipping from japan (approx US\$30)  
runfab@gmail.com

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### **Rights to *World War II Remembered* Sold**

The president of BNRPress has divulged that all rights to *World War II Remembered* by Fred Schwan and Joe Boling have been sold to a major national corporation. At this time the identification of the buyer, a major media corporation, has not been released.

The book has been an important numismatic reference and recipient of many national and international awards since it was published in 1995. Collectors have been seeking a new edition for years. These collectors will likely be very disappointed to learn that it is unlikely that the book will be produced in a new edition.

The buyers are planning expanded national and international use of the materials which likely will greatly expand the interest in World War II numismatics.

The buyers have authorized some details of future plans. The book will be made into a major motion picture to be released by the time of MPCFest XX in 2019. In keeping with the timing, movie producers will be at MPCFest XIX to interview Festers on their thoughts on the project and what the book has meant to them. These interviews will be used with the movie when it is released on DVD after it runs in theaters.

Schwan and Boling will have cameo appearances in the movie as Generals Eisenhower and MacArthur respectively. Casting for the parts of Schwan and Boling are pending. Reports that Brad Pitt and Tom Hanks are being considered are believed to be only rumors, The part of The Boss will also be a very interesting casting.

**Blue Beat Rest in Peace**



Festers might recognize the remnants of the Blue Beast, Mobile Black Hole and former transportation of the Fest battalion clerk and Gram editor. The 1998 Buick was at every MPCFest since 2002. The erstwhile Buick had provided reliable (ish) transportation for 213,000 miles. I was driven to the Summer Seminar and to southern California to purchase a collection. It was driven to FUN and Chicago events. It recently sacrificed itself to save the aforementioned clerk-editor-driver.

### **Editorial**

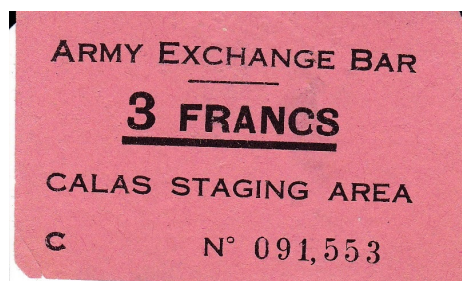
My Buick served me well until the very last moment when if it did not save my life, it saved me from serious injury. I will tell you right up front that I had no injuries and even the other driver had only minor injuries. We (the Buick and I) were struck in the rear by a distracted driver. He stated that he was distracted by tuning the radio, but I suspect that there is a very good chance that he was texting (he was in the right age group for that). He did not try to avoid us or brake. If you study the picture, you might find some missing numismatic treasures in the trunk--I did not find them all!

Overall, I am thankful that no one was seriously hurt (an EMT at the scene told me that he anticipated much worse when he first saw the vehicles). I must take this opportunity to tell you how much I look forward to seeing each of you at the Fest or somewhere down the road or even just here via the ether. Please drive safely.

### **Letters to the editor**

We invite letters on a wide variety of subjects relating to military numismatics. We reserve the right to edit letters to correct obvious errors or to meet Gram editorial standards.

Dear Readers,



Brent Arthurson, IBNS member in Australia, sent me this image and inquired. All he has been able to learn is:

The little info I could find was that Calas was outside of Marseilles in southern France. Apparently the US Army set up a camp in late 1945 or early 1946 for troops returning home or being transferred from the European sector to the war in the Pacific. The chit is uniface, black print on an off white/light tan paper and has dimensions of 68mm x 42mm.

Can any gramster add to this?

Joe

Dear Joe (and Brent),

I have seen this chit. I think that I have one here somewhere. I always liked it because of the 3 franc denomination. I also like the fact that the chits are nicely numbered. My research did not produce anything that Joe did not, but I too would like to learn more. Just the confirmation of other denominations would be most interesting.

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#### **2018**

**March 23** The Waukesha Coin Club will hold its 49th Annual Coin Show on Sunday 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the New Berlin Ale House, 16000 W. Cleveland Avenue, New Berlin, WI

As in past years, Fester Dave Hunsicker will have a table at the show and Fester John Watta will be the MC of the show. In past years some Festers like Neil Shafer and Karen Jach have found time to attend the show. We hope any other Festers in the area can join us at this year's show.

For more information, go to: [www.waukeshacoinclub.com](http://www.waukeshacoinclub.com)

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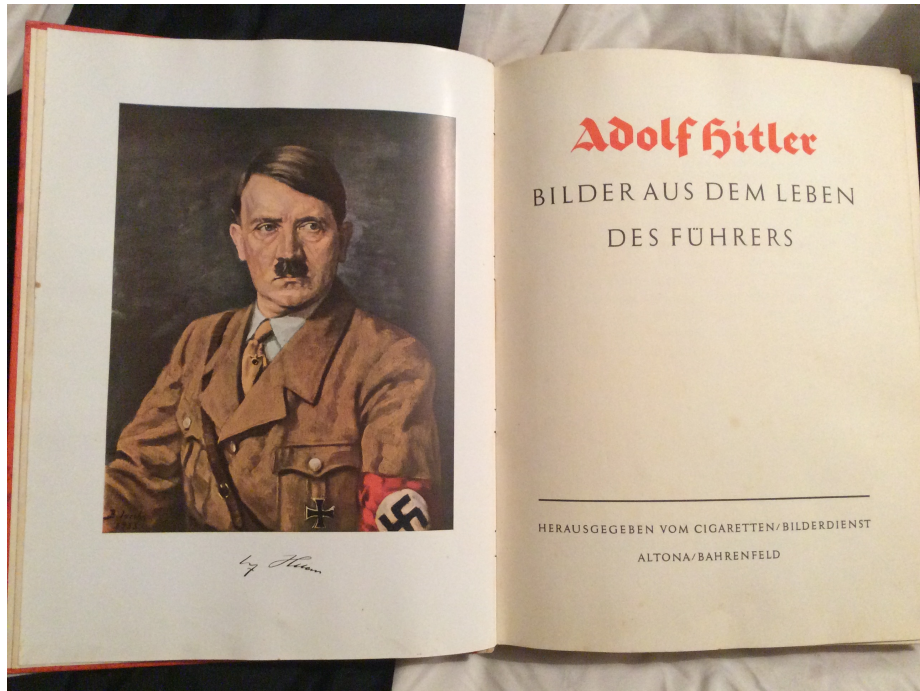
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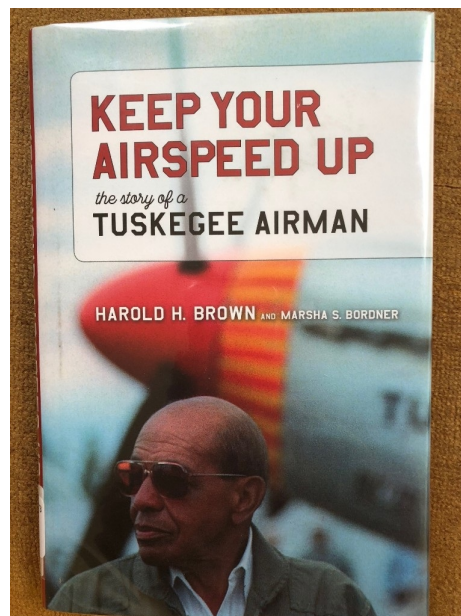
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**World War II Veteran  
Prisoner of War  
Tuskegee Airman  
to Be Distinguished Guest at Fest**

Harold Brown graduated from Tuskegee in May, 1944, was assigned to the 332nd Fighter Group and flew 30 missions as a bomber-escort fighter pilot before being shot down on a strafing mission. Captured, Brown became a German POW--all before he was 21 years old.

He was liberated by General George Patton's forces in 1945. After the war ended, he continued to serve in the U.S. Air Force, retiring in 1965 as a lieutenant colonel, with 23 years of active duty service.

Building a new career after his retirement, Brown joined a small technical college, in Columbus, Ohio. While a teacher and educator, he earned both a Master's Degree and Ph.D. in Vocational-Technical Education from The Ohio State University. He eventually became a vice president. Over the two decades he worked there, he helped the small college grow from 500 students to close to 9,000.



In 2017 Brown's autobiography (with Marsha Bordner) *Keep Your Airsped Up: The Story of a Tuskegee Airman* was published.

This book covers his early years in Minnesota, his time during World War II and the Strategic Air Command, and his experiences as a respected and beloved Ohio educator.

At 93, he has not slowed down, keeping active by traveling and making speeches to young and adult audiences describing how he overcame

adversity in a segregated America. He encourages young students to make wise decisions about their future, to study hard, and to take subjects leading to interesting, well paying careers. He remains a Tuskegee Airman and an American Patriot; and is a living role model and mentor for young Americans of all ages, colors, and ethnicity.

At 1300 on Saturday May 5th Harold Brown will appear at MPCFest XIX. He will appear with his bride and coauthor Marsha Bordner. A short film will be shown then Colonel Brown will answer questions and sign copies of his book which will be available on site. It is likely that he will sign short snorters as well.

### **Editorial**

It is a thrill to be able to make the announcement that Harold Brown will join us at MPCFest XIX. Harold is a celebrity in the local area where he shares his extraordinary life's experiences with groups large and small.

We have tried for several years to coordinate the Fest schedule with that of Colonel Brown in order to get him to the Fest. A few years ago we thought that we had it arranged, but a particularly cold winter and the lure of Florida sunshine got in the way. The wait and anticipation will make the event even better for me.

Since that missed attempt, Keep Your Airspeed Up has been released. It is a wonderful book--I have read it twice. I have also given several copies to friends and family members as gifts. (Believe it or not, the Boss would have even been happy to receive a copy for Christmas, but she had one!) If you cannot wait for the Fest, you can obtain a copy elsewhere, but be sure to bring your copy to the Fest for autographing.

If you have not registered for the Fest, now is the time! Call Kim at 419 732 7322. If you have questions call me at 419 349 1872.

### **Letters to the editor**

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Dear Editor,

It is with sadness that I must report that Central States Numismatic Society Governor, Education Chairman and Past President Ray Lockwood passed away Thursday March 29 at 0400. Funeral arrangements will be made Monday and an on line obituary should be posted by Tuesday. Rest in peace Ray.

Numismatically,  
Brett Irick

Dear Readers,

Ray was a friend of the the Fest and the Gram and of course to numismatics in general. He will indeed be missed.

Editor

Dear Editor,



In response to inquiries about the chit from Calas I can add I have two similar chits from Marseille (picture attached).

Mine measure 68mm x 40mm - so slightly shorter in height but the same length as the one from Calas. I would call mine a worn pink color and they are also unfaced. I would note Calas is about 20 kilometers north of Marseille.

Looking forward to any info your readers may have on the Calas piece which is clearly from the same era as the ones from Marseille.

Thanks,  
Steve in WV

Dear Editor,

Sorry to see the blue beast suffered a fatal battle wound. I am glad there were no other injuries. May the blue beast rest in peace.

Bill

Dear Editor,

The scam would have been more effective if you had said "documentary" rather than "major motion picture."

My beast also died this year, on the way home from FUN. At the last service call it had had the control arms replaced, and a cotter pin was left out securing one of the ball joints. The wheel tried to come off in Valdosta, and we had to buy another car there. My beast was 250 miles shy of 300,000.

Are you working on your SPMC column?

Joe

Dear Editor,

And a Happy April Fools Day to one and all

Bill Rosenblum

Dear Editor,

I understand the leads in *WW2R*, the movie, will be played by Bill Murray and Danny Devito. There is a particularly amusing scene - almost

Abbott and Costello like - where they discuss publishing a second edition.

Jim Downey

Dear Editor,

I can only assume that you did hit your head in the demise of the Blue Beast. Why else would you hallucinate and expect us to believe that the rights to *World War II Remembered* were actually sold. Then there is today's date. Nice try!!

Roger Urce

Dear Editor,

Happy Fools "Day!!!

The Freelands

Dear Editor,

I am confident the new owners will make a sequel *Fest Notes Remembered* and pay tremendous royalties to the author.

Rest in Pieces (finally) Beast. Thankful no one was injured.

Al

Dear Editor,

Good one! You had me going there for a few seconds! Happy Easter to you and the Boss.

Kansas Bill

Dear Gramsters,

Thank you for your comments about the sale and forthcoming Remembered movie. We might sell advance movie tickets at the Fest.

New Thespian and Editor

Dear Editor,

The Gram text comes through fine but I never see any of the pictures.

Ken Berger

Dear Ken,

Wow, years ago this was a recurring problem with the Gram, but I have not heard of this problem recently. I see that your email is with Juno.com. Are there any other Gramsters out there from Juno and how is your reception?

By the way Ken, we are looking forward to greeting you at the Fest! Bring some of your books!!

Editor

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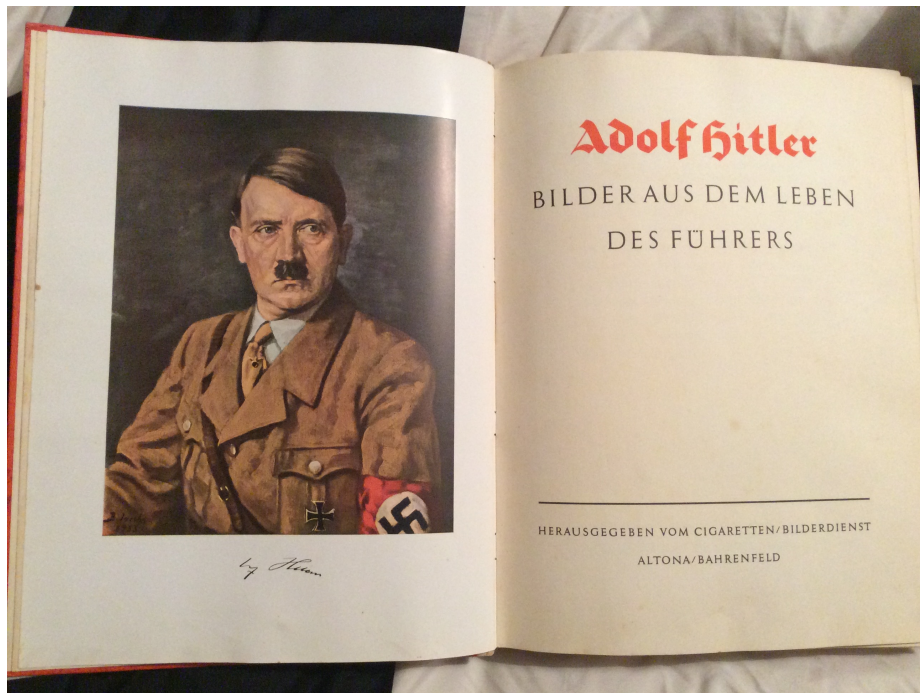
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## MPC Gram Series 19 No. 2356



### Hans Gone

Operation Bernhard survivor and Fester Hans Walter died on April 20th. Han who has attended MPCFest on several occasions slipped away on Friday with his family nearby. His passing was reported by Danny Spungen. Spunger and Walter are shown above at MPCFest.

Services are expected to be in Mansfield, Ohio. Although the Gram will attempt to report the arrangement on a timely basis, Festers are encouraged to watch for the information on their own and for everyone in the community to leave a message in the anticipated on line guest book.

### Fest preparations

It is essential that you get your Fest presentation (briefing) proposals in to the operations and training officers ASAP! This year's program is filling up and is going to be spectacular! You want to be part of this and Festers want to see it and hear from you! Send your proposals and a sample image (jpeg) if possible now! Send to either RayFeller@gmail.com or SFeller@coe.edu and send a copy to the other.

The Fest auction is critical in raising funds for the Summer Seminar scholarships. This year's event will be spectacular. You will have an opportunity to buy some great material and raise money for the scholarship fund too! Contact Dave Frank at [dave@frankcomputers.com](mailto:dave@frankcomputers.com).

Thank you to the Fest sponsors. Starting this year collectors (including Festers, past and future Festers), dealers, businesses and friends of the Fest have responded to the opportunity to be MPCFest sponsors.

The first sponsors signed up at Fest XVII. They are here by announced and thanked:

Al Glaser, Harold Kroll, Brett Irick, and Steve Feller, Thank you very much for your support. Fest sponsors will be recognized in various ways at MPCFest and in Fest promotions. If you are interested in becoming a Fest sponsor, please contact [fredshwan@yahoo.com](mailto:fredshwan@yahoo.com).

### **Maynard Sundman Littleton Coin Company Lecture Series Lite in Reprise**

Maynard Sundman Littleton Coin Company Lectures are a highlight of the American Numismatic Association World's Fair of Money (aka annual convention). In 2017 the theme of the lectures was the numismatics of World War I. Festers Boling and Schwan were two of the four presenters at the event. They spoke on counterfeit paper money and coin trench art of World War I respectively which you had probably figured out.

These two programs will be repeated with supplemental material on Sunday evening after Fest XIX. Traditionally, programs for Sunday evening have been spontaneous rather than planned, but this particular opportunity could not be missed.

The programs will commence at approximately 8pm (2000 hours) Sunday. Of course all Festers are invited to attend. The public is also invited to attend so get there early to guarantee a seat (grin). The presentations will take place at Camp Leo May in the Bay Harbor Room of the Holiday Inn Express Catawba/Port Clinton. Questions and reservations (non Festers) contact [fredschwan@yahoo.com](mailto:fredschwan@yahoo.com) or 419 349 1872.

This reprise is very unofficial in the finest of Fest traditions. Nonetheless we offer gratitude to the Maynard Sundman Littleton Coin Company Lecture Series and the American Numismatic Association for the original program that generated these special briefings for the Fest.

### **Editorial**

You can tell that things are getting serious when I send in my Fest presentation proposal. It went in two weeks ago when I wrote this editorial then delayed sending the Gram--so you can no longer beat me, but you still need to get your proposal/notice in. With the presentation by Harold Brown, the year's schedule is likely to be tighter than ever before. Ray and Steve will get everyone in, but the chances of add ons are much less than in the past. We would hate to miss out your your presentation, so get those notices into the operations/training officers Ray and Steve Feller!

We are working on the training schedule and will publish the first draft soon. Of course it is very much like most years, but then, of course, there are some revisions. If you have comments about the training schedule, you should send them in now. See letter below.

### **Letters to the editor**

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Dear Editor,

I am going to be a new Fester. I found a copy of the training schedule from last year. I am a bit concerned about the morning physical training swims. I am not a good swimmer. This must be a joke. Do you really do this?

name withheld

Dear Name,

Wow. How could you think that something on the training schedule does not happen? Of course I do not do it myself. I publish the training schedule For The Boss and we sleep in having done our part. In 18 years (can it be?) I have never heard anyone complain about the swim. I have always assumed that everyone gladly completed the planned task.

Editor

Dear Gram,

I am very sorry to hear of the death of Hans Walter.

Seve in London

Dear Gram,

Hans Walter had an amazing life. We are all sorry to see him leave.

Joe

It is with a heavy heart that I learned of Hans passing. I never met him but feel I know him through the Operation Bernhard research. I will be giving a talk on the Operation at Central States on Friday. I will have the autographed note to pass around. Again thank you for keeping me in the loop.

Dale Lukanich

Dear Gram,

For those festers attending the Central States Numismatic Society Convention I would like to organize a min-fest on Friday and suggest we meet after the CSNS business meeting. If there is a better time we can arrange at the show.

Myers

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**April 26-28** Central States Numismatic Association Convention.  
Schaumburg, IL Renaissance Schaumburg Hotel and Convention Center  
1551 North Thoreau Drive, Schaumburg, IL 60173. Festers known to be  
attending: Bolings, Freeland, Myers, Buckley, Karen Jach, Brett Irick.. Possible  
mini Fest on Friday and Operation Bernhard program. See CSNS program.

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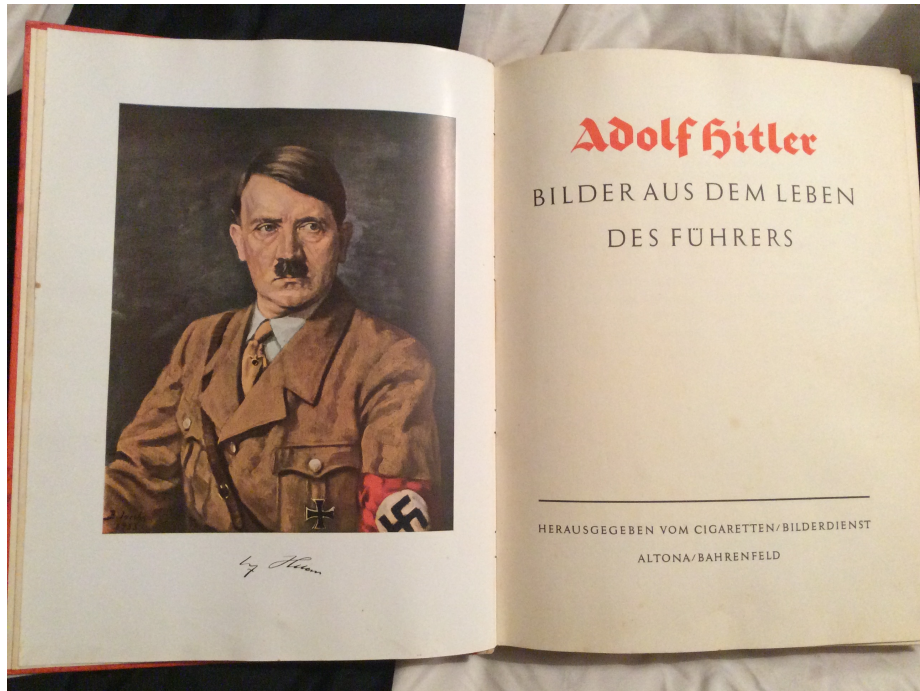
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## MPC Gram Series 19 No. 2357



### VALKENBURG SHOW REPORT

By Roger Urce and Dave Frank

Dave Frank and I met at the airport in Amsterdam on Wednesday 4 April and took the train to Maastricht where we changed to the Sprinter line for the short ride to Valkenburg. Luckily, the weatherman was wrong and it was not raining and we were able to walk to our hotel without getting soaked. After checking in, we made the short walk over to the show venue at the Polfermolen. The show did not officially open until Friday, but we were able to enter early for the pre-bourse. This was the second year the pre-bourse was held at the Polfermolen. Previously it was held at the host hotel in a small part of the dining area which made it quite difficult to move around and visit any dealer tables. In the large theatre hall at the Polfermolen, approximately one third of the show's registered dealers were set up early for business. There are two Dutch dealers I always try to see first, as they have a good selection of World War II material specially sorted for easy viewing. Of course, I always stop at the tables of the Italian dealers.

My first find was at the table of Walter Nasi where I was able to locate one of the Italian notes overprinted for Liguria. These notes are known to have faked inkjet overprints, but this 50 lire piece showed a very

heavily inked hand stamp (and a star perforation as a bonus) raising the value to 5000 lire. It's listed as SB 35105a in the book. There was another note in the case that caught my attention, but I knew immediately it was way beyond the budget. I've always wanted to add the Dodecanese notes to my collection and the note in the case was an example of the 100 lire. I had to look, and I had to ask, but that was as far it got. It was a nice VF example, a little surface dirt, all intact and, as I knew before I was able to hold it in my hand, very much out of my price range. Dave was with me at the table and he told Walter he had been looking a long time for Campbell 5394 from Italian Somaliland. The 10 cent, 1 and 5 shilling denominations are tough to find, but I have never seen the 5 cent denomination. Walter offered me an unfinished note with the first and second printing but the third printing was missing. He said that only the unfinished exist except for one fake where someone attempted to add in the third printing.

After leaving Walter's table, I went over to visit with Italian dealer Frank Spinelli. We started to chat and I mentioned the Rodi note I had just seen and he motioned me to come behind his table.

Once there, he showed me a set containing both the 50 and the 100 lire, both in AU condition. These two were the in the best condition I had ever seen. Frank told me they were already sold, but I would not have mattered. I console myself thinking I'll find a set in a junk box someday. Like that might happen!

I went over to one of the Dutch dealers who showed me two sets of WW II French Colonial stamps overprinted "FRANCE LIBRE" one from French India and the other from French Somalia. Two interesting sets for my ever-growing WW II philatelic collection. I'll have these and a number of Italian Social Republic issues for the stamp meeting on Bourse Friday.

Jet lag was catching up with us, we called it a day. Returning to the pre-bourse on Thursday, we set out to find more treasures.

Dave's other finds included 2 Italian WW2 POW notes including one from Chieti which is unlisted in Campbell. Also found was a complete set of WW1 POW notes from a British Camp in France, Coy 55, along with a counterfeit to show Joe.

My next find was a thousand-franc FRANCE back AMC piece. I've been chasing a nice example for a while and this one, despite the very small split in the center of the top margin, and likely a little pressing to try and hide the fold, was priced accordingly and I decided to buy it.

With dealers setting up on Friday, and with the early entries, floor traffic was fairly brisk. We helped set up the IBNS table and spent a part of the day with George Bayle and his new book "Billets ET Tickets D'Outre-Mer (French colonial necessity notes and tickets)." Now George, of course, speaks French and some Spanish, but almost no English, but with the help of Mark Anderson (of SPMC fame) who speaks Spanish, we were able to have a conversation. The book had been previously advertised in the IBNS Forum, but I wanted to have a look in person prior to pre-ordering and paying for shipping. The book is well done, with many color images, and as Dave said there are many WWII issues and it is very usable even if you don't read French. We both came home with a copy and a pre-ordered copy for Joe who will have it at Fest.



The public is admitted on Saturday and it is the busiest day of the show. There was quite a bit of floor traffic, so much so that we were glad we did most of our looking at the pre-bourse. We were busy at the IBNS table with new member applications and dues. Across from the table was a French dealer who had a number of French Colonial issues. One French Indo China 5 franc note, with a New Hebrides over stamp caught my attention. There was no Pick number on the label and my want list showed that I already had a copy of P4 (SB 1711) and need a copy of P5 (SB 1721), but which one was it? I told the dealer I had to do a little research to determine which issue the note actually was and I would be back. I was able to find a Standard Catalog to borrow and, with a phone call home to check SB, I eventually figured out it was the P5 that I needed.

Prior to the trip, Dave and I had decided, rather than leave the show early on Sunday to get back to Amsterdam for a late afternoon flight, we would spend Sunday night in Amsterdam and catch flights home on Monday. This turned out in our favor since flights home on Monday were a lot cheaper than on Sunday even factoring in the extra night. So, it was back to the show on Sunday morning. Having decided to buy the FIC note, I went over to the dealers table only to find he was not there. We waiting a while and he still had not arrived and it looked like I would miss out. A while later he arrived and we made the deal.

The show was somewhat busy on Sunday, with many dealers still open for business and moderate floor traffic, but after lunch a number of tables were packing up, and by 2pm the it was about over.

Valkenburg is always a good show. With many international dealers, representing many countries, there are notes there you don't see at the US shows. I enjoy the fellowship and the entire atmosphere and look forward to going back every year.

### **Hans laid to rest**

As this report is being written, Danny Spungen is speeding (he always speeds) across Ohio heading for Mansfield for the funeral of Fest and Gram friend Hans Walter. The news of Hans' passing spread rapidly through the numismatic community after the first report here in the Gram. Readers should go to the site (below) of the funeral home in question. There you can (and should) read a good account of Hans' remarkable life. You can also (and should) make an entry in the electronic guest book.

<https://www.snyderfuneralhomes.com/obituary/hans-walter/>

Save your money! You will need it for the forthcoming Fest auction and bourse. We anticipate having the auction list in the next Gram which will be later this week. Gramsters around the world can bid in the auction and remember donated are sold for the benefit of scholarships to the military numismatics summer seminar.

The Fest bourse, now known as the Seelye MPCFest Bourse, is a very unusual bourse. True, you might find anything there, but you will find MPC, AMC, war bonds, and many fascinating things at this bourse. It is hard to anticipate what will be there for sale, but I know of several customers who are coming for the first time. One to whom I talked today is driving from Tennessee for the bourse! I am trying to convince him to stay for the entire Fest, but am equally excited that he is coming for our bourse.

I hope to have a draft Fest schedule in the next Gram as well, but I want to point out at least one activity about which Festers might be uncertain, and may still be able to make special plans to participate. On Thursday night, one again we will have recreational shooting at the world famous Camp Perry range. In 2017 we were not able to continue the tradition that had started a few years earlier because of a schedule conflict at the range. This year we are streamlining the evening by having dinner at the range!

The range opens for shooting at 1700 hrs. Bill Myers with Mike Buckley at his side will be there with chow, ammo (pellets) and instructions. The shuttle bus will depart Camp May (Holiday Inn) about 1730. Festers coming by car from the West are encouraged to arrange their schedules to stop at the range enroute to Camp May.

If you cannot come to the Fest (shame), but are able to be in Port Clinton area, we highly suggest that you attend the bourse on Friday ca. 1000-1500. On Saturday we can invite you to attend the presentation by Tuskegee airman Harold Brown. It will be at 1300 Friday. Space is limited so it is best if you call ahead.

For everyone else, see you real soon!

### **Letters to the editor**

We invite letters on a wide variety of subjects relating to military numismatics. We reserve the right to edit letters to correct obvious errors or to meet Gram editorial standards.

Dear Ed

I am attending the CSNS

Regards

Pam [West]

Dear Pam,

We sure wish that we could see you at CSNS, but we are working hard on Fest preparations. Speaking of the Fest, it was not very good planning to come all the way from England for CSNS then not stay another week for the Fest! Everyone would have been delighted to see you! If there is ANY way that you can change your plans, we will find a way to include you. Failing that, we might be able to make the same combo available next year.

See you soon?

Editor

Dear Editor,

I Want to Trade. I have these:

Series 641 5 cents 3<sup>rd</sup> printing (Plate 66) PCGS 67PPQ

Series 661 5 cents (Plate #5) PCGS 66 PPQ

Series 661 10 cents (Plate #57) PCGS 67PPQ

My goal is to have an array to show the younger service veterans with whom I work. Realize that a colonel or sergeant major 50 years old has never seen one of these in real life. Anyone enlisted or commissioned in 1987, has always been paid with a debit card or direct deposit.

It would be nice to have as much of a series year as possible, but the broader presentation across years is more important. I know that higher denominations are harder to come by, but a \$1 note means that I don't have to keep explaining what a Three Musketeers Bar or a gallon of gasoline cost back in 1950 or 1960. And I don't need more rags with staple holes because I already bought those locally. All I am looking for is a range of issues in presentable grades.

Thanks.

Mike Marotta

[Uszik11@gmail.com](mailto:Uszik11@gmail.com)

Dear Gramsters,

I called Mike to discuss his ideas. It was a very interesting chat to be sure. One comment that I made is that for the purposes of spreading the word to younger military personnel (and younger veterans too) as well as collectors in general, worn pieces can serve as well (or better) than uncs. Good luck Mike. Let us hear about your success in trading and (especially) about your experiences spreading the word.

Editor

### **Training Schedule (Gram Calendar)**

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## **2018**

**April 26-28** Central States Numismatic Association Convention. Schaumburg, IL Renaissance Schaumburg Hotel and Convention Center 1551 North Thoreau Drive, Schaumburg, IL 60173. Festers known to be attending: Bolings, Freeland, Myers, Buckley, Karen Jach, Brett Irick. Pam West from England will be there. Possible mini Fest on Friday and Operation Bernhard program. See CSNS program.

**May 4-6** MPCFest 19. Holiday Inn Express, 50 NE Catawba Road, Port Clinton, OH 43452.

Coordinating information:

Reservations call Kim at 419 732 7322. Chat or questions call Fred at 419 349 1872.

Program submissions: [RayFeller@gmail.com](mailto:RayFeller@gmail.com). Send approved electronic programs to [JoeBolilng@aol.com](mailto:JoeBolilng@aol.com).

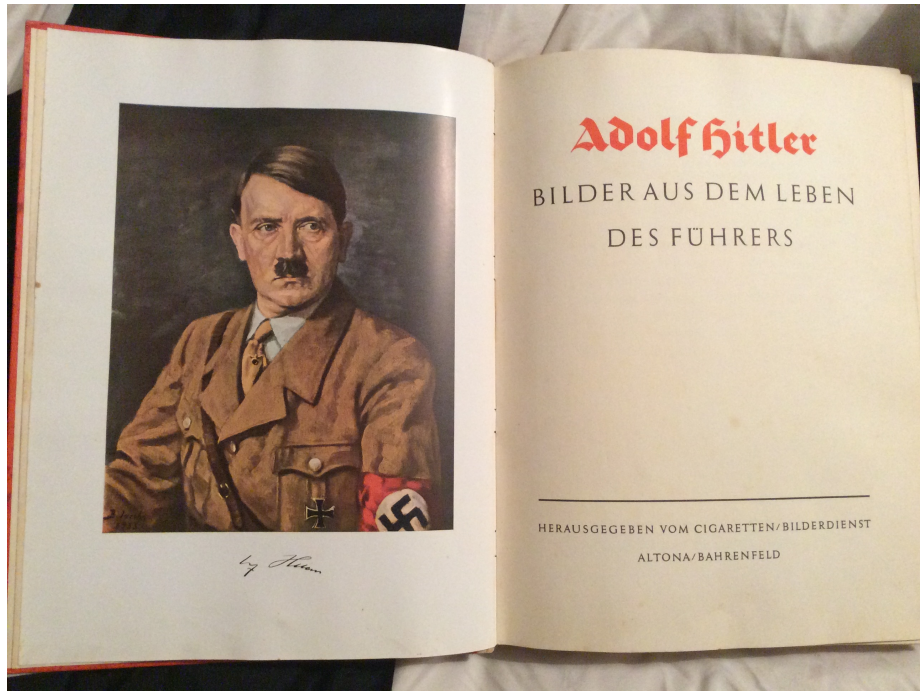
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space early (fredschwan@yahoo.com) (Confirmed participants: Mike Buckley, Dave Hunsicker, Harold Kroll, Bill Myers, Warner Talso, Louise and Joe Boling, Fred and Judy Schwan.)

### Gram Exchange

*Do you have something for sale (or trade)? You can offer these items here in the Gram Exchange. Send your text and images (!) to the editor for inclusion in the Gram Exchange. Please send the images in jpeg format with each image in a separate file.*



Rare Original Third Reich cigarette album of Adolf Hitler, subtitled "pictures of the life of the Führer". Complete with no pages missing with a foreword by Dr. Joseph Goebbels. All photos are coming from the Hoffman Studio in Munich (Heinrich Hoffman was Hitler's personal photographer). 256 photos in this book!

Offering it at US\$180 + shipping from japan (approx US\$30)  
runfab@gmail.com

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**Fest auctioneer:** Dave Frank - dave@frankcomputers.com

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## MPC Gram Series 19 No. 2358

### Fest Auction List Ready

Auctioneer Dave Frank has announced that the auction catalog for Fest 18 is finished. It will be published in Gram 2359 which should be published on Sunday. Remember, you can bid by email for the Fest auction.

### Minute Man flags



by Brad Schwan

The Minute Man was adopted in the early 1940s for use in defense and war bond sales. It was used on many items. Most of these were printed items (including savings stamps), but also on a few medals and other items.

I have been particularly interested in the Minute Man flags that were used to recognize groups that met sales goals. Usually the goal was 90% participation. Civilian businesses and military units who met the goal were awarded the Minute Man flag. Usually, it is enough to say that they were awarded the Minute Man flag, but today we must say that they were awarded the blue flag, because I am pleased to show you (a photo

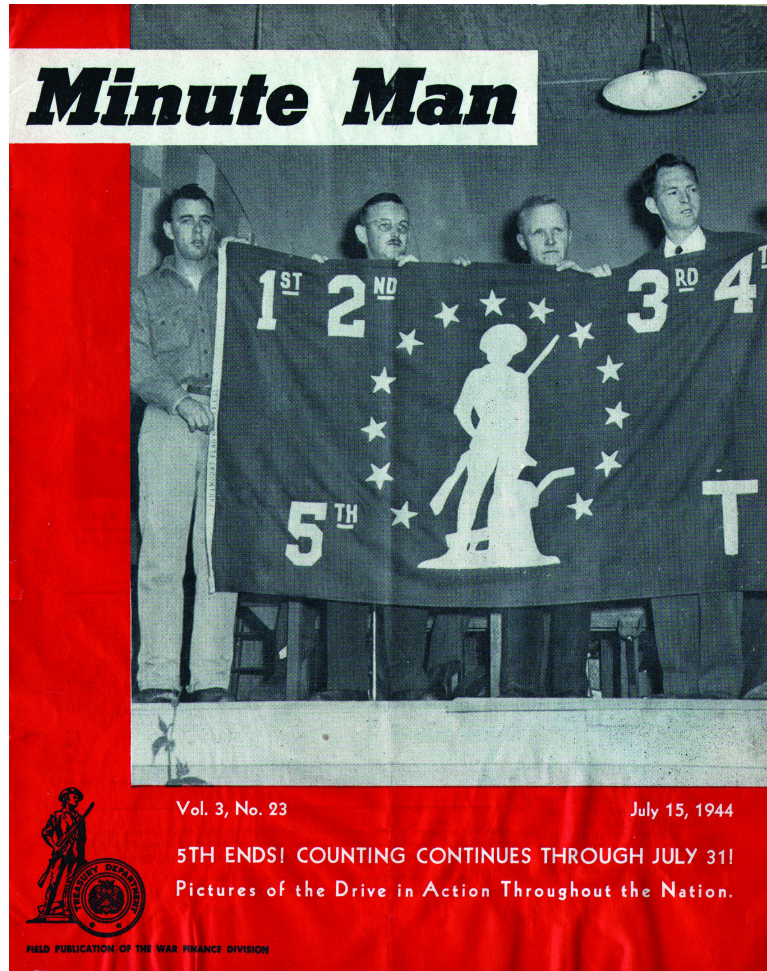
of) a white with blue Minute Man flag.

Fred and I had not seen one of these before. I mentioned in my staff briefing two years ago at Fest 16 that they existed, but I had not seen one. I still have not seen one, but Fred found this great picture. Here is the caption from the back of the flag.

Believed to be the first elementary school in Alabama to receive the Minute Man Flag for War Bond and Stamp participation, Central Park School children are pictured as the flag is being raised following presentation ceremonies on the school grounds Wednesday morning. During the past month, the schools' War Bond and Stamp purchases reached a total of 99.4 per cent student participation, it was announced by Edgar Keenon, principal, who said it is believed to be the first elementary school in the state to become eligible for the award. a total of 22 of the school's 24 classrooms reached 100 per cent in sales. Oct 21, 1943.



Another version of the flag has the T for Treasury as seen in the image above. I have to say that we are not very clear on the use of this flag versus the Minute Man flags without the T. Just to make it more complex, look at the flag below on the cover of Minute Man magazine. Wow.



Fred has found two interesting T Minute Man flags. They should be hanging on the walls at the Fest.

### **Fest adds sponsors**

MPCFest headquarters announces that for the first time official sponsors are supporting MPCFest 19. The support of these sponsors is greatly appreciated and will be critical ensuring quality events at modest prices. The following sponsors have stepped forward to support MPCFest: Steve and Ray Feller, Warner Talso, Al Glaser, Dave Husicker, Harold Kroll, Brett Irick. A few additional sponsorships are available. If you are interested write Fest hq at [fredschwan@yahoo.com](mailto:fredschwan@yahoo.com).

### **Chambliss back on his feet**

Regrettably Carlson R. Chambliss fell on black ice and was seriously injured on December 30, 2017. He broke his left hip and his upper left arm. He was operated on for the arm, but was in hospitals and rehab centers for two months. He was only released on February 27th. He can now walk slowly but requires a cane. Most of 2017 was a truly disastrous year for Carlson. He also had a home invasion robbery in August, and a fall in July that resulted in a fractured wrist. In addition he has been put on warfarin (a powerful blood thinner) for possible risk of stroke.

He reports that a year ago he was a happy, healthy middle-aged 75-year old. He went on, "It seems that I have aged at least a decade in going from age 75 to 76."

"My paper money holdings are so large that I have decided to sell sizeable portions of them. Kagins is selling my large-size FRNs and FRBNs, while Heritage is selling my large-size USNs, Silver notes, Gold notes, and Treasury Notes plus what I have in Demand Notes and Interest Notes. These important auctions are now being displayed in the literature." For at least the time being Carlson is not selling his MPC.

Carlson is finally driving and is planning on making the trip to the Fest.

### **First Sergeants back**

All for first sergeants from MPCFest 18 are returning for service at Fest 19. Alpha Company will be led by 1SG Al Glaser, Bravo Company by 1SG Bill Myers, Charlie Company by 1SG Brian Giese and Delta Company by Senior Chief Roger Urce.

The top kicks will be officially appointed at the Fest battalion dinning out on Friday evening May 4. Attendance by Festers is mandatory and they WILL have fun.

### **Editorial**

Eagle eye Editor Joe Boling reports that we really messed up in number 2357 and indicated that Harold Brown would make his presentation on Friday. Let there be no doubt, Colonel Brown will appear at Camp May ca 1300 on Saturday. As they say, we are sorry for any misunderstanding or inconvenience and we thank Joe for the catch.

As this Gram is being prepared, several Festers are at the Central States Numismatic Society convention. Others are preparing their staff briefings for the Fest and Judy and I are attending to too many little Fest details. Still we will all be together at Camp May in less than a week! I can hardly wait.

For those of you who cannot make it to Fest 19, plan now on attending Fest 20. Twenty? Can it really be? Many people, former Festers and non Festers, have told me that they plan on attending Fest 20. I think that we will break all records on the attendance and fun meters. Watch this space for a decision on the dates for Fest 20. As usual, Kathy Freeland has done a great job of finding potential conflicts. We will discuss the dates at the Fest and then here in the Gram so that a decision can be made very soon.

### **Letters to the editor**

We invite letters on a wide variety of subjects relating to military numismatics. We reserve the right to edit letters to correct obvious errors or to meet Gram editorial standards.

OK Editor,

You really goofed up the last Gram. You said that Harold Brown will be speaking on Saturday and another place you say Friday. Clean in up. SATURDAY.

Joe

Dear Esteemed MPCGram Editor,

While reading the April/May 2018 edition of "AARP The Magazine," I notice an article about our MPCFest guest speaker, Harold Brown. The article was about a small portion of his World War II experience. Now I am even more eager to hear his presentation at the Fest. See you soon.

Thanks,

John Phipps

John,

Good eye there! It will be a great presentation on SATURDAY.

Steamed Editor

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Glaser, Warner Talso, Teve and Ray Feller welcome Festers to Camp Leo May.

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Program submissions: RayFeller@gmail.com. Send approved electronic programs to JoeBolilng@aol.com.

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new items next time

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## MPC Gram Series 19 No. 2359

### CSNS

by Bill Myers

Central States Numismatic Society convention concluded today. Festers present were John and Nancy Wilson, Kathy & Dan Freeland, Neil Shafer (one day), Dave Hunsicker, Louise and Joe Boling, Mike Buckley, Larry Keefe, Brett Irick and Bill Myers. Joe Boling gave the talk *Banknotes at 20 power: Dealing with printing technology and World War I generated many paper money issues and the counterfeiters followed right along*. Dale Lukanich gave a the talk titled *Operation Bernhard Counterfeit Notes*. Dave Hunsicker won second place and the topical award for *Savings Banks of Milwaukee, Wisconsin* and third place for *Each One Unique* (11 unique Michigan National bank notes). Nancy Wilson won second place for *Electricity: 1986 Style* (1896 \$5 silver certificate) and third placed for *Guatemala 5 Pesos Issue 1895-1915*. Bill Myers won third place for *Mexican Coins Minted in the United States*. Brett Irick was installed as the vice-president of the CSNS.

As to shopping, I found a variety of small items. I did get a magnesium 10 mark coin from Lodz ghetto. I found a few coins I have been looking for. I found an Italy 50 centesimi 1939 XVIII that is weakly magnetic. I now have only one denomination of Italy steel coins that I have not found the magnetic, weakly magnetic and non-magnetic varieties. Yes, I believe their are 3 distinct varieties for these coins and I have seen it noted in an Italian reference.

HOOAH to all. Myers

### 2018 Fest XIX Auction

Since the early years we have had a charity auction at MPCFest. Interested parties donate items that are sold in the auction. The proceeds go to supporting scholarships to the military classes at the American Numismatic Association Summer Seminar. In the fifteen or so years of the program, more than 40 scholarships have been awarded!

The auction is supplemented with items that are sold on consignment. The special nature of the Fest venue allows buyers and sellers to come together at a low cost.

As always Gram readers can bid in the auction. Bidders must send their bids to the auctioneer by (2300 hrs) 11pm on Saturday May 5th. Send bids to [dave@frankcomputers.com](mailto:dave@frankcomputers.com).

All Winning Bids Subject To 10% Buyers Premium.

- Bidders in attendance must pay for lots at close of auction.
- Payment by cash, check, money orders, or traveler's checks. Sorry, no direct facilities for credit cards.
- Email/Mail/Phone bidders must pay for lots within 7 days of notification of winning bids. Notification will be made by invoice. Payment by check, cash or money order only. Mail payment to

Dave Frank  
P.O. Box 7894  
Chesterfield, MO 63006-7894

- Consignors who are present will be paid by check, after "in person" buyer's transactions are completed.
- Checks will be sent to absent consignors
- Unsold lots will be returned immediately following the auction

LOT	Description	Min. BidDon.
1	\$25.00 US Defense Bond New Design type with top perforations and low serial numbers	100
2	\$25.00 US Defense Bond 1941 Design type with offset printed window plate number 2	100
3	Hawaii War Finance Committee card	10
4	10 dollars in fun Pearl Harbor Day note with Lincoln	10
5	Dutch Ministrie van Oorlog 10 cent token	20
6	50 cent Thai MPC coupon	30
7	10 and 30 unit German Taxi Ticket	30
8	10 centavo, 20 centavo and 1 peso Apayao Philippine Guerrilla notes	10
9	Unused European currency control coupon book	10
10	MACV ration card with 21 October 68 MPC Conversion notation	20
11	Banque de France 500,000.00 franc check issued by the German military to the Le Havre Port Office 19 August 1944	40
12	War Department Montgomery Ward check for 2 cents scarcer variety with small text at top	20
13	Complete NCO Open Mess Moron Spain Navy \$10.00 coupon book	15
14	Lottery ticket for German Air Defense Lottery 1934	30
15	Replica set of ½ shilling, one shilling and one pound Oceania JIM	50
16	War Department War Bond Refund check for \$1.25	10
17	Camp Stoneman CA 1 cent POW chit	20
18	Newfoundland \$6.00 check for redemption of War Savings Certificates	40
19	Ham Radio QSL card on unfinished Japanese Military note for Hong Kong	20
20	Uncancelled 1934 5 RM Konversionskasse scrip certificate	20
21	Serbia 1943 1000.00 Dinar Bond	20

22	Block of four German Luftfeldpost stamps	5	D
23	Officers club of Richmond VA 1 cent and five cent chits	5	D
24	2 <sup>nd</sup> Infantry Division NCO Open Mess Chits 5, 10, 25, 50 cents	5	D
25	5th Special Forces Group Vietnam chits 5, 10, 25 cents	5	D
26	Nhatrang NCO Open Mess Neptune Club Chits 5, 10, 25 cents	5	D
27	NAVSUPPACT Saigon Detachment Club chits 5, 10, 15 cents	5	D
28	Huckleberry Inn (Vietnam) Chits 5, 10, 25 cents	5	D
29	Naval Air Station San Diego Chit 1 cent	5	D
30	Set of 7 Soviet stamps for Berlin	5	D
31	Group of 8 unissued stamps from South Vietnam from 1975	15	D
32	Unused US Postal Savings System stamp card	5	D
33	Group of three different unused WWI US savings certificate and thrift stamp holders	15	D
34	Unused Schmoo savings bond certificate	20	D
35	Group of 5 different unused US Defense Bond stamp booklets	15	D
36	Binder of souvenir cards (mostly Fest cards) and Fest bonds	20	D
37	Ceylon one Rupee P-34, SB 1221j (Perf. Edge) XF		
38	Ceylon one Rupee P-34, SB 1221j (Straight Edge) F+		
39	Ceylon two Rupees P-35 SB 1222b (Perf. Edge) VF		
40	Ceylon two Rupees P-35 SB 1222c (Straight Edge) F		
41	China-FRB 10 Yuan P-j80, SB 1114a.2 AU		
42	China-FRB 1000 Yuan P-j91a SB 1145a.2 VF		
43	China-Russian Military 100 Yuan P-M34 SB 374 AU		
44	China-Russian Military 100 Yuan P-M36 SB 376 Unc		
45	Iceland Krona P-22e SB 1005 XF		
46	Italy-Emergency Circ. Check 100 Lire SB 4642 F		
47	Italian East Africa 50 Lire P-1a SB 631a VG		
48	Japan Tobacco Ration Book (Pictured on pg 587 in SB)		
49	Japan Clothing Ration Book, Red S18.2.1 (Feb 1, 1943) SB page 587 VG		
50	Japan Clothing Ration Book, Series 1, Green, Brown Paper (SB page 587) VF		
51	Japan 10 Yen Propaganda #2009 P 40z F		



52	Japan 10 Yen P-79d SB947 (p-77 w/shoshi stamp) VF edge tear	
53	Jersey Shilling P-2a SB 142a VF small edge tear	
54	Malaya 10 Cents P-2 SB 4051 VF	
55	Malaya 25 Cents P-3 SB 4052 VG+	
56	Martinique 25 Francs P-17 SB 1452a F	
57	Netherlands Gulden P-70 SB-111 AU/Unc	
58	United States \$25 War Savings Bond, Replacement AU/Unc	
59	MPC Series 681 5 Cents Replacement (has been laminated or something)	D
60	2002 Italian Paper money catalog	D
61	"Krueger's Men" book with autographs	D
62	Lance Campbell 2nd edition Camp money of 20th century. New long out of print.	D
63	Directory of forts, camps, etc 1889 to 1945	D
64	Alfred Swails WW2 Military Currency with suplement in original envelope. Numbered	D
65	Leo May MPC auction Catalog Lyn Knight with PRL	D
66	Fred's 4th edition special Collector edition #13 of 46	D
67	Silent Witness New. Out of print	D
68	US Army field manual "Handbook on Aggressor Military Forces 1969	D
69	The Phil DeRosa Collection of MPC., A Fred Schwan phamphlet elusive at best	D
70	lot of 7 Japan "B" AMC	D
71	Italy Series 1943 BEP 1 Lira replacement	D
72	Germany AMC 100 Marks Russian Printing Counterfeit	D
73	Republic of Texas reprints	D
74	WW2 1940 Coburg Newspaper receipt	D
75	Lithuania 10 Punkte SB 1054a	D
76	Lithuania 5 Punkte SB 1053a	D
77	Lithuania 1 Punkte SB 1051b	D
78	Latvia 3 Punkte SB 1032	D
79	Latvia 5 Punkte with serial number RR SB---	D
80	Latvia 10 Punkte SB 1034a2	D
81	Australia 1942 1 Pound War Savings Certificate	D
82	Australia 1944 1 Pound War Savings Certificate	D

83	Roumania 20-3-1945 1000 Lei Pick 52a PMG 63EPQ Large note nice!!		D
84	Belgisch Noodgeld by Alain Debelder		D
85	MPC Series 471 25 Cent Replacement Fine condition Only 7 reported	2000	
86	Philippine JIM replacements. 1 peso block 69, 5 pesos blocks 20 & 27, 10 pesos blocks 40 & 41 Circulated	3	
87	Cameroun Free French Stamps 5, 10, 25, 30 & 80 cents (unused).	2	
88	Cameroun Free French Stamps 5, 10, 25, 30 & 40 cents (unused).	2	
89	Philippines 5 piso 2014 coin 70 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of Leyte Gulf landing	3	
90	Franklin D. Roosevelt medalette and play money	1	
91	India ¼ rupee 1945b large 5. K 547, SB 1606c1b. This variety is scarce to rare.	25	
92	French Indochina coins: 5 cents 1938, 10 cents 1939 (magnetic) & 1941-S, 10 cents 1945, 20 cents •1939•, 1941-S, 1945 (A), 1945-B, 1945-C. Circulated	5	
93	French telephone token 1937, probably used during World War II. Used EF	1	
94	Germany Nazi Labor Service postage stamps 1943. 3+7, 6+14, 5+10 and 12+18 reichspfennig. Unused set of four stamps.	2	
95	Winterhilfswerk October 1938/1940 postcard, unused.	3	
96abc	Clover Farm Stores ration book cover, unused ( 3 available)	1	
97ab	Postcard from Japanese occupation of the Philippines. Has occupation stamp unused. (2 available)	2	
98	WWII Japanese military postage free postcard, unused.	4	
99ab	Ruptured Duck Honorable Discharge lapel button. (2 available)	4	
100ab c	Navy Exchange Sangley Point (Manilla Bay, Philippines) vending token (3 available)	3	
101ab cd	War Bonds & Stamps cigarette pack stamp. Origin unknown. Set of two. (4 sets available)	1	
102ab c	Sheppard AFB NCO Open Mess 5¢ in trade token (Texas). (3 available)	1	
103ab	German AMG postcard 1947. Unused (2 available)	1	
104ab	Army Service Forces patch. One of three components of US Army in WWII. Others were Army Air Forces and Army Ground Forces. Active 9 March 1942 to June 1946. New (\$8-10 on Ebay) 2 available	2	D
105	First Day Cover Churchill 5¢ stamp 13 MAY 1965.	1	D

106	Audio book Trident K9 Warriors. How Military working dogs are selected and trained. Battery required.	1	D
107abc	Set of three mini-fest notes (Long Beach 2017, ANA Denver 2017, FUN 2018) Set #1 SN 9, 4, 6, set #2 SN 6, 21, 21, Set #4 SN 12, 22, 22. 3 available	1	D
108	Monuments Men WW 2 Uncirculated Mint Medal	5	D
109	<b>MPC SERIES 692 \$20 MISSING TWO TINTS ON FACE ERROR E20887027E ONLY 5 KNOWN</b>	500	
110	One dollar chit book, Orlando Air Base, Florida Complete 2 strips of 5 cents and one strip of 10 cents. Unused	5	D
111	Philippine Victory 10 peso note. Rough bottom margin. Fine	2	D
112	Short Snorter. Two Phillipine Victory notes one and two peso.	3	D
113	Austria-Hungary WW I POW notes Kleinmunchen 1, 5, 10 heller, and 1 Krone Campbell 1430, 1431, 1432a, and 1434 AU/Unc	10	D
114	MPC strap from a pack of fractional notes. Black printing. No tears	20	
115	Four MPC checks. All different. Three from Korea, one Viet Nam. Nice	15	
116	France Propaganda. Parody of Pick 93 with original note. 1940 issue S/B p. 93	75	
117	Frankfort Barter Center note. One Unit, series 1947A and a sales slip dated during the time frame the note was used S/B 629XF	150	
118	MPC check. American Express Co. at Bentwaters Air Force Base. 1956 Used	50	
119	Martinique Proof. Like S/B 1452 but no serial numbers or signatures. Quarter folded. Clean and Attractive. VF+	300	
120	Series 171 ANA Banquet Dollars: \$3, \$4, and \$7	25	D
121	Same as lot 119	25	D
122	Allied Fest Certificates: 1, 2, 5, FIVE, 10, TEN, 75 piasters	15	D
123	Series 472 \$5 fine grafitti on back	20	
124	Series 611 25 cent gem unc stain bottom left edge	15	
125	Series 651 50 cents UNC	100	
126	Series 692 \$10 EF minor rust stains	200	
127	USA Series 1934A Hawaii \$10	50	
128	France series 1944 2 Francs "X" VG-F	10	
129	France series 1944 5 francs "X" F	15	
130	France series 1944 10 francs "X" F	20	

131	France series 1944 50 francs "X" Flag F scarce	100	
132	France series 1944 50 francs "X" "France"	100	
133	France series 1944 100 francs "X" "Flag" damage	50	
134	France series 1944 100 francs "X" "France" VG	50	
135	Germany Series 1944 1/2 mark replacement F	50	
136	Germany Series 1944 1 mark replacement F+	75	
137	Germany Series 1944 5 marks replacement F	125	
138	Germany Series 1944 10 marks replacement VG-F	150	
139	Netherlands Van Oorlog 1 gulden Scarce type VG-F	200	
140	Philippines 1941 1 peso Pick 89b processed F	75	
141	Venezuela nd (1940) 5 Bolivares Leprosarium Series C Pick S.370 Scarce VG	200	
142	Short Snorter AMC France 100 Francs Flag Back	10	D
143	Short Snorter Great Britain 10 Shillings #1	10	D
144	Short Snorter US 1934A Silver Certificate, many signatures including Lt. Gen K. Mikami	20	D
145	Short Snorter Great Britain 10 Shillings #2	10	D
146	DENMARK (encased postage) Quality for every ore in Silkhouse Vimmelskaftet 1 ore SB171 unc	20	D
147	DENMARK (encased postage) Each ore is well used in Silkhouse Vimmelskaftet1 ore SB171 unc	20	D
148	DENMARK (encased postage) Magnavox Radio-world famous for its reproduction1 ore SB171 unc	20	D
149	Two Canada meat ration tokens, blue fiber SB1129 XF	4	D
150	OPA War Ration Book 1, seven stamps remaining, Buffalo NY VG	3	D
151	OPA War Ration Book 1 (3 books for family) 3-4 stamps remain, Appleton WI AU in Clover Farm Stores holder	15	D
152	"Know Your Money" Secret Service pamphlet, Malaya JIM shown under discussion of enemy counterfeiting	11	D
153	Patton portrait in oil (lithograph) 8x10, 4stars, ribbon rack, ivory-handled revolver swagger stick 2 ea	2	D
154	6th Port - 40 page history publ by Southern Line of Communications Morocco, N Africa, Italy, France - illus	20	D
155	Bilodeau Guide to Canadian Tire Coupons, 6th ed, Vol II - detailed descriptions of varieties, 200pp	6	D

156	of Military History 1979 507 pp	5	D
157	Fixed Price list, German stamp dealer, several pages East German badges /decorations, WWII notes, all color	2	D
158	Series 1928D \$2 short snorter, 12 stop itinerary, Adelaide-Hollandia and many stops between, 1943-44	6	D
159	Series 1928D \$2 short snorter, covered w/ signatures	6	D
160	Series 1935A \$1 short snorter, signed by two Filipino nurses and one other illegible	6	D
161	Corres, LA Avn Cadet Exam Bd recruiting and instructing new cadet. Spec del ltr, phone toll ticket w/tax info	4	D
162	QSL card USNR radio station Winter Park Fla oper by Comm Div, US Naval Reserve, 7th Naval Distr Nov 1926	4	D
163	Kirkee (India) ammunition plant canteen token, bronze 20mm w/center hole AU, no date or denomination	21	D
164	Lot of two Germany WWII advertisement cards - Hitler and General Litzmann, and Goebbels with a Hitlerjugend boy. Also Hitler 50th birthday 1939 sticker, and a WHW 1938/39 Gau Thüringen stamp.	10	D
165	Lot of WWII-era coins - India and Ceylon - 8 coins	5	D
166	Lot of WWII-era coins - Germany and Bohemia & Moravia - 13 coins	6	D
167	Lot of WWII-era coins - Hong-Kong, East Africa, Morocco, Tunisia, Indochina 9 coins	5	D
168	Lot of WWII-era coins - Dutch West Indies, Curacao, Jamaica, Fiji, Cyprus, South Africa- 9 coins	5	D
169	Large envelope of "stuff" from Summer Seminar 2007. Fest notes, bonds cards who knows what. This lot is donated by a student from that Summer Seminar and is sold as is without opening until sold at the auction.	15	D
170	Series 611 1 Dollar PMG 65EPQ GEM UNC	100	
171	Italy WW2 Circulating Check L'Istituto di Credito delle Casse di Risparmio Italian (Rome) 25,000 Lire	125	
172	Italy WW2 Circulating Check Cassa di Risparmio di Pisa 50 Lira	100	
173	Italy WW2 Circulating Check Cassa di Risparmio di Pisa 500 Lira	100	
174	Germany Operation Bernhard 5 Pounds	125	
175	Morocco 1-8-43 1000 Francs Pick 28 PMG 25 Very Fine	150	
176	NAFFI receipt 7-12-1941	50	



177	(2) UNRO Shanghai Office payment voucher 22-6-1954 & 23-12-1953	50	
178	Ukraine 1942 500 Karbowanez Pick 57 SB 1269 RARE!! PMG 35 Net	125	
179	Yugoslavia 1944 1000 Lir Pick R24 SB 1114 Scarce PMG 40 Extra Fine	225	
180	3 Steuergutschein 3,80 RM 2 A 1 B all different Very nice condition	25	D
181	Book "A Historical Drama about the Internment of German-Americans in the United States during World War II" by Lojo and Anita Simons	5	D
182	War Savings Bond Series E \$10 Soldiers Bond Feb 1945	75	D
183	Alpine Montan Aktiengesellschaft "Hermann Göring" Linz 100 RM Bond Nov-39	35	D
184	United States Treasury War Finance Committee Disney Bond Certificate Never seen issued by Missouri State Chairman	50	D
185	Large assortment of stamps from World War II and after. Many DDR, Polish, and Israeli stamps comemrating Concentration Camps, Ann Frank,and Kristallnacht	25	D
186	Remember Pearl Harbor Token	10	
187	Germany Concentration Camp Scrip 50 Pfg. C-2620	10	
188	Handbook Survival on Land and Sea USN 1944	7	
189	Conn. Gas Ration Tickets 1 & 5 Gal. 1973	5	
190	USAFE Gasoline Coupons ½, 1, 3 Gal. W/Covers 1970/71	15	
191	US Savings Bond Window Sticker Minute Man	8	
192	Chet Krause Savings Bond Catalog	20	D
193	Germany Steuergutschein 200RM 1945/46 S/B- Kroll 1105ab5	25	
194	Jewish Winterhilf 50 Rfg 28 Nov. 1937 Very SCARCE Item #22	100	
195	Canada \$10.00 War Savings Certificates 3 different types S/B 955 \$500.00 Limit, S/B 956 \$600.00 Limit, S/B 958 \$600	750	
196	MBF Bank of America Check Taegu Banking Facility Korea	20	
197	Series 661 short set 5 Cents to \$1.00 UNC.	100	
198	Zimbabwe 10 Trillion to 100 Trillion 4 Pcs. UNC	150	

199	Malaya JIM 50 Cents Block MC UNC. Tough to Locate	40	
200	Spain Campsa Military 10 Litros Coupon	75	
201	China Kwang Tung Province \$10.00 LG. 7 PS-2403	25	
202	MBF Chase Manhattan Bank Heidelberg Germany	25	
203	3 Pogs @ The Blue 25 & 50 Cents 5 Cent AAFES 1 <sup>st</sup> Issue	5	D
204	Mexico Provisional Revolutionary 1, 5, 50, 100 Pesos	20	
205	Ceylon One Pound Dry Rubber Coupon Final Issue Aug. 1 1941	85	
206	Mixed Date Lot British Petrol Units	15	
207	The American State of Change \$100.00 Series 1970B	3	D
208	The Shenandoah Irrigation and Land Co. \$30 Bond Coupon 1-8-1909	5	
209	Germany Konversionskasse 30RM 1934 Overprint S/B 213	250	
210	The Great Republic Gold & Silver Mining Co. Payable 25 <sup>th</sup> July 1874 One Pound Fifteen Shillings Sterling Redeemable in London	5	
211	Philippines \$1.00 P133g & \$5.00 P135e UNC.	6	
212	Mexico Revolutionary 1. 5. 10. 20 Pesos S529, S532, S535, S537	20	
213	Philippines 500 Pesos S/B2232b1 P114b N/D 1944 UNC.	10	
214	Viet Nam 2000 Dong 1987 (88) P103 UNC.	40	
215	Burma 5 Rupees P15a Block BA SCARCE Block	30	
216	10 ANA souvenir sheets		D
217	India Five Rupee short snorter March 1945		
218	Remember Pearl Harbor 1942 censored envelope from Honolulu		
219	1950 Bluejackets Manual, Airwar 1971 books		D
220	Viet Nam stamps (5) 1958 Cat # 83-87, (4) 1960 Cat # 146-149		
221	Two West Bend Aluminum Army plates		
222	Army Direct Order pin		
223	Four Milwaukee Convention Fest Certificates		D
224	1942 Ten Shilling Australia Short Snorter with 1945		

	signatures from Columbia	
225	Ernie Pyle, Postmaster, 1918 War Book of U. of Wis, Hiroshima, Jackpot books	D
226	1943 Army Air Force personal letter and pin	
227	War Dept 1943 Carpentry, Training for Victory Shopwork, European Theater of Operations books	D
228	1917 sheet music "Say a prayer for the boys "Out There"	D
229	China air mail stamp set featuring Junkers F-13 over the Great Wall C-11-20) and four piece propaganda air set	
230	The "SS", Naval Aviation News, Omar Bradley, Story of Ernie Pyle books	D
231	Four Kelloggs "PEP" WWII collector pins	
232	Bullet cigarette lighter	
233	Reddy Kilowatt "Victory" pencil holder clip	
234	Fort Greeley Kodiak Alaska Sweet Heart cover	
235	Credit Union "V" (..._) pin	
236	Men in service one and two star pins	
237	Dog Tag	
238	WWII "metal" union pins	
239	Rare three and four men in service star pins	
240	WWI Dog Tag Co. H, 61 Inf	
241	Collection of Around the world War tax stamps and "Victory" stamps	

We again want to express our sincere appreciation to many folks that donated lots to this auction which are to benefit the Scholarship Fund. Without your generous contributions this worthy cause cannot be supported. We salute the following people and offer a hearty THANK YOU!

Jim Downey, Larry Smulczenski, Bob Olsen, Bill Myers, Joe Boling, Dave Frank, Fred Schwan, Pam West, Dan & Kathy Freeland, David Seelye, Harold Kroll, Dave Hunsicker, Brian Witzke, Greg Fedner, Gary Snover, Tim Kyzivat, Dick Dunn, Neil Shafer, and Roger Urce

### **Editorial**

It is a pleasure present the Fest auction list in the Gram. I am not sure how many years that we have distributed the list this way, but it has been fun every time. It is also a bit of a problem as the auctioneer and the editor must mesh the computer technologies.

Back to the plusses. The largest obvious plus has been the great support

for the sale and the great scholarships that have been awarded. I do not think that any organization can match us in this regard. We should be proud.

Then there is the amazing array of material that has been sold in the auction. We have had some real rarities that have sold for substantial sums, but more amazing to me are the large number of just down right interesting things that have been sold. I have quite a few of those in my collection (sure wish that I could find some of them!)

If you will be at the Fest, bid high and often. If you will not be at the Fest, just bid high! Thank you for your support.

### **Letters to the editor**

We invite letters on a wide variety of subjects relating to military numismatics. We reserve the right to edit letters to correct obvious errors or to meet Gram editorial standards.

Dear Esteemed Editor,

I recently had the high bid for a French Tahiti 100 Francs note from the WWII era. I bid on it for Richard C. Taylor over in France and it has already been mailed to him. It is not often seen, and it is the same design used for a post-war issue in French Indochina. The notes were taken from the printing for French Indochina so it is related to my stuff. FYI.

The Master Sergeant Daniel

PS Note: My 3rd Edition *French Southeast Asia Coins & Currency* is now available from [www.wizardcoinsupply.com](http://www.wizardcoinsupply.com). Type "Daniel" in their Search to see all of my catalogs.

Contact Daryl Spelbring at [hottub4@aol.com](mailto:hottub4@aol.com) for BIC, DRVN, RVN & SRVN paper money from the Nguyen Xuan Son Collection.

SICP, TPOS, ONS & IBNS meetings are scheduled in Bangkok during the 28 Nov-3 Dec 1st Thailand Int'l Expo & Thailand World Stamp Exhibition. Contact me about attending, speaking and/or exhibiting because I need some numbers for everything to happen.

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## **2018**

**May 4-6** MPCFest 19. Holiday Inn Express, 50 NE Catawba Road, Port Clinton, OH 43452.

Coordinating information:

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Reservations call Kim at 419 732 7322. Chat or questions call Fred at 419 349 1872.

Program submissions: [RayFeller@gmail.com](mailto:RayFeller@gmail.com). Send approved electronic programs to [JoeBolilng@aol.com](mailto:JoeBolilng@aol.com).

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final departure on May 9. Space may be limited--reserve space early (fredschwan@yahoo.com) (Confirmed participants: Prudy and Larry Smulczenski, Mike Buckley, Dave Hunsicker, Harold Kroll, Bill Myers, Warner Talso, Louise and Joe Boling, Fred and Judy Schwan.)

### **Gram Exchange**

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new items next time

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Brett Irick, Dave Seelye, Harold Kroll, Dave Hunsicker, Al Glaser,  
Warner Talso, Steve and Ray Feller

#### **MPC Gram Series 19 No. 2360**

#### **Error Collection**

A lifetime collection of AMC and MPC errors will be available at MPCFest for examination and purchase! The collection has been assembled over many years by a diligent collector. The collection includes major and minor errors, all of which are interesting.

The collection will may be seen at David Seelye's bourse table at MPCFest 19. As usual, David's table will be just inside the door where he has been for every Fest bourse. Collectors are invited to bring AMC and MPC errors for comparison.

The appearance of this collection is fitting as the highlight item in the Smulczenski Charity auction is the famous MPC error Series 692 \$20 certificate that is missing two colors. This amazing error has been known to collectors since the late 1970s. The amazing thing is that it was known to officials during the time that the series was in circulation! Finance officers found the error and sent notification to finance offices throughout Vietnam warning finance officers to watch for and withdraw these errors. The most amazing thing of all is that the teletype message still exists.

There is more. The error that is for sale was plucked off ebay by an alert collector using his knowledge!

#### **Editorial**

MPCFest XIX is upon us. How can it be Fest 19? Did we move to two a year and I did not notice? Sad to say not. On the other hand, the previous eighteen Fests have been marvelous. Beyond the great fellowship, they have been great research meetings. Many discoveries have been announced at Fests past and I expect some more this time. Even more interestingly, a few great discoveries were MADE at the Fest. When so much talent and material is brought together discoveries are possible.

Do you remember about cash being accepted with identification? I have used that line many time. A few weeks ago it came true. A friend wanted to sell me some of his collection because he needed some money. Certainly that is not an unusual situation. Most have been there. Indeed, I for one have been on both sides of that table.

After we worked out the details it only came down to paying him. He wanted the money fast. He never told me why, but most of us have been in that trick too.

Cashiers checks and wire transfers are not what they used to be. Indeed they can be quite slow. Express shipments are problematic because of insurance. Over my doubts, he wanted to try Western Union. I will not tell you the details of that now--perhaps another time. Let me say it was a disaster.

Eventually, we (he) hit upon a solution. His wife has a checking account at a bank that also has a (yes one) branch in Ohio. Ok, it was 100 miles away, but he really needed the money and I really liked the material that I bought so off The Boss and I went.

We arrived at the bank with the account number and cash. The bank would not take it. Talked to the manager. Talked on the phone to national. No dice. We even turned around and went back after the wife talked to national and the manager at the bank. The branch manager and I had a conference. They would not take the money!

That is really the whole story, but I will tell you the essence of the bank position is that fast cash is a trademark of scam operations. I hate to mention this last part. The fast cash scam is especially prevalent against OLD people. But they were talking about me! Oh no. Say it is not so.

Bottom line they would not take the cash.

### **Letters to the editor**

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Dear Editor,

1. I continue to thank Bill Myers for sending me the MPCGram given my "GoDaddy" server/host does not recognize/accept your Yahoo email. I heard I am not the only one.

2. Note to interested parties. I had the August 24, 2008 interview of Hans Walter (by Fred Schwan and Danny Spungen) digitalized. It is a big file (from 3 "Super 8" tapes)...

For those interested in it...bring a laptop computer to MPC Fest and I will download the video from my external hard drive to your laptop.

I have no other way of sending to you....my cloud service (www.dropbox.com<<http://www.dropbox.com>>) does not allow me such big files under my free subscription.

Danny Spungen

Dear Danny,

Slow down!

Editor

Aside to readers. Danny is a busy guy. No doubt about that. Much of what he does supports our collecting and research efforts. However, enroute to his many projects he tends to support local jurisdictions. Part of the wonderful story of our first meeting with Hans Walter was the dialog between Danny and the state patrolman who stopped us. I am sure that his generosity is greatly appreciated, but we are still of the opinion that he should slow down.

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new items next time

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**Fest auctioneer:** Dave Frank - dave@frankcomputers.com

**Fest yearbook editor and photographers:** Kris and Cuneyd Tolek  
- ctolek@yahoo.com

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## MPC Gram Series 19 No. 2361



MPCFest XIX battalion portrait (photo by Bill Gordon)

### Talso Down, Schwans win, Myers Honored

MPC Fest XIX started on two sad notes, but gained momentum fast and accelerated from there. The bad news came on Wednesday afternoon (2 May) when word came in that long time and well-loved Fester Warner Talso had suffered serious injuries in his driveway as he was departing for the Fest. While the injuries were serious enough to require more than 10 stitches and hospitalization, he was out of the hospital on Thursday and sent warm greetings for all Festers at the opening ceremonies.

Also on Wednesday, Festers Boling (Louise and Joe) were in a fairly serious automobile accident as they were leaving Indianapolis. The good news was that no one was injured in the accident and the Bolings were able to make it to the Fest by Thursday.

The bourse on Saturday was small by recent (or most any) standards, but the activity was brisk with some major and important sales taking place.

The national champion of military numismatics collecting is determined at MPCFest in a quiz contest that matches Festers in a single elimination tournament. The preliminaries are held on Friday evening with the finals on Saturday night. The final four were Harold Kroll, Joe Boling (past champion), Larry Smulczewski, and Fred Schwan (past champion). The champion from 2017 was Neil Shafer who retired from

competition as a three-time champion.

Harold Kroll upset Joe Boling in the first semi final to advance to the finals. In the other semifinal, Schwan defeated Smulczynski in a close contest. Kroll and Schwan were two of the three Festers who have been to all nineteen Fests. Kroll was in the finals for the first time. Schwan had been there three previous times having won once. Schwan went on to win his second national championship.\

The highest award of the military numismatics seminar is the Ray Toy medal. The 2017 recipient was Al Glaser. By tradition, Glaser announced and made the presentation to the 2018 recipient as the last presentation of the Saturday evening session. Fester Bill Myers received the 2018 Ray Toy award from Glaser to a standing ovation.

### **Other Awards**

A few Festers arrive on Wednesday before the Fest, many arrive by Thursday. Several different activities have been held on Thursday evening. In 2018 interested Festers had marksmanship training at the world famous Gary Anderson range at Camp Perry, Ohio. The session ended with a 20 shot competition. For the second consecutive time, Al Glaser won with a remarkable score of 199 out of 200 possible.

The Bob Olson medal is awarded to the presenter of the best program as voted by all in attendance. The 2018 winner was Jim Downey.

Saturday late night features a military reenactment poker game. The competition is intense with a bracelet and bragging rights on the line. This year's contest was particularly exciting with two Schwans in the final three! Fest artist David Schwan won his second title defeating Fred Schwan (second place) and Brian Giese (third place). In addition to the bracelet the champion received a \$190000MFC Fest war bond. Cries of wait till next year were heard at the game came to an end early Sunday morning.

### **Brown a Hit**

by Fred Schwan

Tuskegee airman Lieutenant Colonel Harold Brown (USAF retired) addressed a spellbound audience just after lunch on Saturday at MPCFest XIX. Mrs Brown who wrote the recently released biography of her husband, *Keep Your Airspeed Up*, addressed the group then played a short video featuring Colonel Brown describing his life. Then Brown took questions from the audience. The questions ranged from detailed matters about escape packets carried by pilots to other issues about his experiences in World War II and his life as a an African American in an officially segregated Air Force and America.

After the question and answer period, Brown autographed copies of his book, short snorters and other souvenirs of the visit. Most of the short snorters were created on the \$100 Military Fest Certificate of Series 181 that had only been issued about an hour earlier.

The entire group had been very excited about the opportunity to meet Colonel Brown and no one seemed to be disappointed. I have read the book and found it to be excellent. I highly recommend it. Copies are available at Amazon and many other sources. Colonel Brown lives near me. If you would like an autographed copy, you can write to me. I will accumulate orders for a week or so then arrange to get the books and ship them. The price is \$35 plus \$4 shipping. Write to me at fredschan@yahoo.com.

### **Editorial**

Going into Fest XIX, it was hard to believe that we had reached that threshold, Now that the Fest is over, it does not seem possible that it could have passed so quickly, but of course it has and now we are looking forward to an even more astonishing threshold--Fest XX! There was much excitement at the Fest about the next event. Many ideas were put forward to make Fest XX the biggest and best ever. We will of course be discussing many of these here in the Gram over the coming months. We welcome your ideas.

Of course the first and major issue is the dates. Kathy Freeland assembled the dates of events that might conflict with potential Fest XX dates. Here they are.

2019

March 14-16 PCDA Chicago

March 28-30 ANA National Money Show

April 5-7 Likely Fest date

April 14 Palm Sunday, Ontario Numismatic Association convention, Valkenburg, Michigan State

April 21 Easter

April 24-29 Central States Numismatic Society, Schaumburg, IL

May 2-5 personal conflict of Fester

In studying this list, the strongest candidate seems to be April 5-7. The biggest advantage of this date is that we only have to wait eleven months for Fest XX. The biggest disadvantage is that the risk of bad weather is certainly greater in early April than in May, but it should be a reasonable risk. It is also a difficult date if you plan on going to the National Money Show AND one of the events on the 14 April weekend.

We should make this important decision very soon. Am I missing a conflict? Do I have a mistake in the list? Do you have a problem with the proposed (April 5-7) date? We need to know. Please tell us now.

Also please share your thoughts on Fest XIX with us. More Fest reporting will appear in the next Gram (send us reports or commentaries on anything from the Fest).

Finally, please thank our Fest sponsors: Brett Irick, Dave Seelye, Harold Kroll, Dave Hunsicker, Al Glaser, Warner Talso, Steve and Ray Feller. Dave Frank, and Joe Boling. The generous support of the Fest sponsors helps keep the Fest affordable for everyone.

### **Letters to the editor**

We invite letters on a wide variety of subjects relating to military numismatics. We reserve the right to edit letters to correct obvious errors or to meet Gram editorial standards.

Dear Gram,

The Fest was great. Thanks for running my article on the Minute Man flags, but your attempt to improve the text was mistaken. The T on the Minute Man flags was not for Treasury. It was for 10%! Companies with 90% of workers paying 10% of their pay in war bonds received the Minute Man flag with T.

It was also great to see the Minute Man flags at the Fest.

Brad

### **Training Schedule (Gram Calendar)**

The Gram calendar is different from most numismatic calendars. We strive to list events that are of specific interest to Gramsters. This does not mean that we will not list general coin or paper money shows, but

there should be something of special interest to collectors of military numismatic items. We will be happy to list non traditional events if they meet the special interest criteria.

## 2018

42nd IPMS Kansas City, Mo June 7-10 The original paper money show. Many Festers and Gramsters will be present.

## 2019

March 14-16 PCDA Chicago details needed  
March 28-30 ANA National Money Show details needed  
April 12-14 Ontario Numismatic Association convention, Valkenburg, Michigan State  
April 24-29 Central States Numismatic Society, Schaumburg, IL, details needed

**date uncertain** MPCFest XX. Holiday Inn Express, 50 NE Catawba Road, Port Clinton, OH 43452.

Coordinating information:

Fest sponsors Brett Irick, Dave Seelye, Harold Kroll, Dave Hunsicker, Al Glaser, Warner Talso, Steve and Ray Feller welcome Festers to Camp Leo May.

Reservations call Kim at 419 732 7322. Chat or questions call Fred at 419 349 1872.

Program submissions: RayFeller@gmail.com. Send approved electronic programs to JoeBoling@aol.com. Thank you to the Fest sponsors Brett Irick, Dave Seelye, Harold Kroll, Dave Hunsicker, Al Glaser, Warner Talso, Steve and Ray Feller. Dave Frank, and Joe Boling.

**uncertain date above plus two days** post MPCFest Museum tour: USAF Museum Dayton, Ohio, Motts Military Museum Columbus, Ohio and more. Trip will depart the Fest HQ (Holiday Inn Express) early Monday morning and return late Tue evening for final departure on May 9. Space may be limited--reserve space early (fredschwan@yahoo.com) (Confirmed participants: Prudy and Larry Smulczynski, Mike Buckley, Dave Hunsicker, Harold Kroll, Bill Myers, Warner Talso, Louise and Joe Boling, Fred and Judy Schwan.)

### Gram Exchange

*Do you have something for sale (or trade)? You can offer these items here in the Gram Exchange. Send your text and images (!) to the editor for inclusion in the Gram Exchange. Please send the images in jpeg format with each image in a separate file.*

new items next time

### MPC GRAM STAFF & INFO

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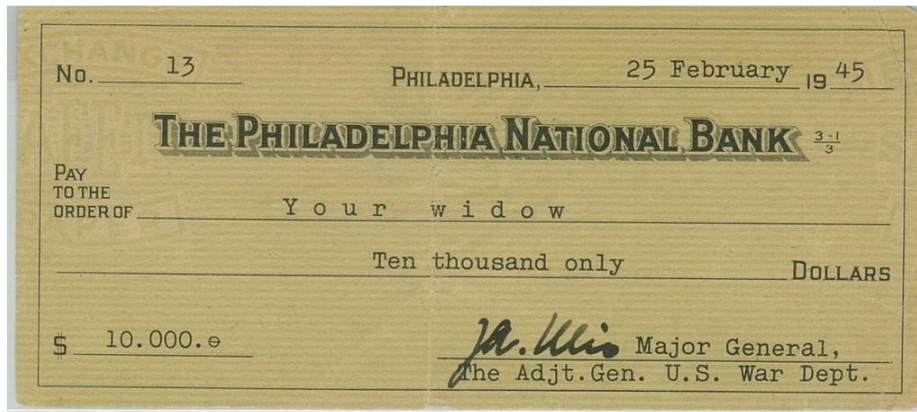
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## MPC Gram Series 19 No. 2362

### Propaganda Check

by Jim Downey



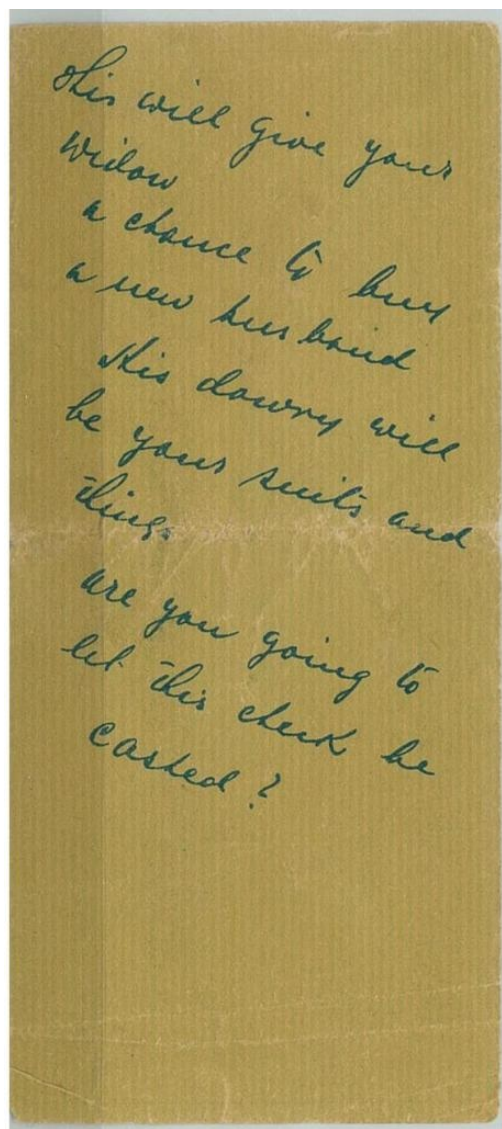
This check was on Ebay a few months ago and cheap enough that I bought it. I assumed it was an envelope stuffer like the war bond reminders.

The check is drawn on the Philadelphia National Bank in the amount of \$10,000.00 and made payable to "Your widow". It is printed on Exchange Safety Paper as checks were at the time. The signature is Major General James A. Ulio, the US Army Adjutant General during most of WWII.

Ten thousand dollars was the amount of life insurance paid to the next of kin of a service member killed during the war. I read it as a reminder to the troops that their loved ones would be provided for in the event the service member died.

At least that is what I thought until I received it and read the back which was not shown in the Ebay listing. The back reads:





"This will give your widow a chance to by a new husband. His dowry will be your suits and things. Are you going to let this check be cashed?"

It is not a helpful envelope stuffer designed to give comfort to the American soldier, it is a German propaganda leaflet intended to have the opposite effect!

#### **Post Fest Tour**



Two cars full of intrepid Festers headed south on Monday after the Fest. They were headed to the United States Air Force Museum in Dayton and the Motts Military Museum in Columbus. It was according to all reports a great excursion.

The Festers were greeted in Dayton by two future Festers: David and Dave Norris. They are in the above photo: left to right Brett Irick, David Norris, Dave Norris, Fred Schwan, Dave Hunsicker.

Young David Norris was selected to receive the first ever scholarship to the 2018 MPCFest but an unfortunate schedule kept the Norrises from making the 2018 Fest, but they have promised that they will be at the gala 2019 20th anniversary Fest!

### **Editorial**

As far as I know, all Festers are home safe and sound. It was certainly a great event. I hope some of you will send some more reports and comments. Dave Schwan helped me create a somewhat detailed Fest feedback questionnaire. I hope to send it out within a few days, but I may need more help from Dave.

There was an important error on a Fest item. Can you believe it? I am not sure who first discovered it. I only know that when First Fester Harold Kroll approached me on Saturday morning, I knew exactly about what he was asking and told him that it was a mistake. I cannot remember if I had found it on Friday or if someone else had found it and pointed it out to me. I have also received an email since the Fest from a Fester who found the error.

I thought that I had the mistake, but after I got home, I checked the order and found that the error was n not mine. Now I have to decide what to do about it, but for the moment I will wait to allow you the fun (if that is what it is) of looking for the error. I will reveal it next time and discuss some options.

With all of this Fest talk, you might be surprised to learn what the Schwans did on Friday. We spent it in Findlay, Ohio where Judy was conducting a recon of sites for the 2019 Tiger Lilly activities!

We visited two museums. Both were interesting to Judy. The surprise was that they were both also of interest to me!

The Hancock County History Museum is quite small (but with several out buildings making it overall much larger). Upon entering the gallery, I was greeted with a large vertical display case featuring the life and especially World War II experiences of Findlay native Donald A. Gary, World War II Medal of Honor recipient.

The display is nice. It includes a model of Gary in uniform including what appears to be his Medal of Honor. To me the medal looked too nice to have been around since 1946 (when it was awarded). I could not find any disclaimer that it was a display medal. I did not expect the staff to know the answer to my question, but was surprised that the woman at the counter did know, but I was disappointed in the answer. It is indeed a for display rather than issued medal. I was however, interested in the rest of the story as they say. Gary's actual medal is on display on board the USS Gary! That is cool.

Here is the citation for Donald Arthur Gary's Medal of Honor.

Citation: For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty as an engineering officer attached to the U.S.S. *Franklin* when that vessel was fiercely attacked by enemy aircraft during the operations against the Japanese Home Islands near Kobe, Japan, 19 March 1945. Stationed on the third deck when the ship was rocked by a series of violent explosions set off in her own ready bombs, rockets, and ammunition by the hostile attack, Lt. (j.g.) Gary unhesitatingly risked his life to assist several hundred men trapped in a messing compartment filled with smoke, and with no apparent egress. As the imperiled men below decks became increasingly panic stricken under the raging fury of incessant explosions, he confidently assured them he would find a means of effecting their release and, groping through the dark, debris-filled corridors, ultimately discovered an escapeway. Staunchly determined, he struggled back to the messing compartment three times despite menacing flames, flooding water, and the ominous threat of sudden additional explosions, on each occasion calmly leading his men through the blanketing pall of smoke until the last one had been saved. Selfless in his concern for his ship and his fellows, he constantly rallied others about him, repeatedly organized and led fire-fighting parties into the blazing inferno on the flight deck and, when firerooms 1 and 2 were found to be inoperable, entered the No. 3 fireroom and directed the raising of steam in 1 boiler in the face of extreme difficulty and hazard. An inspiring and courageous leader, Lt. (j.g.) Gary rendered self-sacrificing service under the most perilous conditions and, by his heroic initiative, fortitude, and valor, was responsible for the saving of several hundred lives. His conduct throughout reflects the highest credit upon himself and upon the U.S. Naval Service.

The other place on the recon was the Mazza Museum. This was certain to not be fun for me, but I was wrong. When Judy told her guide about the Fest, the guide got excited because a coworker is an enthusiastic reenactor. That was nice I thought. The Civil War is interesting.

The young woman reenactor came out for a chat. Wait. World War II, not the Civil War. Molly is really into this! We had a great time chatting. Somewhere other than the Fest, she heard Colonel Harold Brown speak and has his book. She has not read it only because her husband won the battle and gets to read it first.

Molly is an enthusiastic member of the 1st WAC (reenactment) Battalion. See <https://1stwacbn.wordpress.com/>

She is a candidate for the Fest for sure!

## Letters to the editor

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Dear Gram,

As far as the Fest dates xx that is before the due date of income tax filling, 15 April, and would present a problem for my wife but I would try to come. Thank You

Ken Biscan

Dear Gram,

Regarding calendar conflicts, be aware that the Valkenburg prebourse starts Tuesday the 9th of April. Valkenburg ends on the 14th. With several festers attending Valkenburg, the dates of the Fest and Valkenburg are rather close considering the travel distance. How about moving the Fest to August 2019 in conjunction with the ANA convention and the Chicago Coin Club 100th anniversary? That could probably increase attendance; even I could probably come. Being a CCC member, I have seriously considered attending the above two events in 2019. I know it for some, probably would be a sac-religious step to move the Fest three months, but I think it is worth considering for 2019. What do you think?

With best regards

Flemming

Dear Flemming,

We look forward to seeing you bank in Port Clinton! Can you believe that your last visit was more than twenty five years ago?!

We usually have a mini Fest at the ANA conventions and we can try to make a special issue of that in 2019, but it just is not possible to closely coordinate the two big annual events in numismatics (Fest and convention). It would be possible sometime in the future to coordinate the Fest and Central States Numismatic Society convention to get you and Pam West to attend those two!

It would also be great to have a Fest in Denmark! I do not know how to make that happen.

Editor

Dear Editor,

It was great seeing Fred again and making new friends with the rest of you at the AF Museum. We are looking forward to joining you for MPC Fest XX.

Sincerely,

Dave Norris

Dear Gram,

Please obtain and send me an autographed copy of the Harold Brown book.

Thank you,

George S.

Dear George,

I will be happy to get you a book. I have one other order received via phone. I will wait a few more days to see if any more orders come in. As I stated in 2361, I will obtain autographed copies of Keep Your Airspeed Up by Harold Brown for any Gramsters who want one. The cost is \$35 (100% to Colonel Brown) plus \$4 shipping.

Editor

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Reservations call Kim at 419 732 7322. Chat or questions call Fred at 419 349 1872.

Program submissions: RayFeller@gmail.com. Send approved electronic programs to JoeBoling@aol.com.

**uncertain date above plus two days** post MPCFest road trip! TBA

### **Gram Exchange**

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new items next time

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## **MPC Gram Series 19 No. 2363**

### **Fest XIX or Was it XVIII?**

by Fred Schwan

By all accounts, Fest XIX was a great time, but was it Fest XIX or XVIII? The confusion is because of the challenge coin. The 2018 challenge coin featured the date 2018 and a WWI 100 years legend. There was no Fest number on the obverse or reverse. Instead the Fest number was on the edge. This same technique had been used last year.

The problem is that the text on the edge states MPCFest XVIII! I either noticed that or was shown it by an observant Fester on Fest Friday. On Saturday morning, Harold Kroll brought it to my attention. I simply told him that it was an error which it certainly was.

I assumed that the error was mine. Of course even if the error was not mine, as battalion clerk, it was my responsibility. With the Fest in full swing, I put the matter out of my mind. A few days after the Fest, I went to the order and found that the error was not mine. The order clearly states that the edge lettering was to say MPCFest XIX!

I called Wendy the project manager at Great Lakes Mint. She agreed that the error is not mine. Now the interesting part. I can send back the remaining medals for credit. That does not seem to be a very good plan. I can also send the remaining medals back and they will replace them with corrected text. That sounds much more likely. It also introduces a small twist. I can send back the remaining pieces plus any that Festers want to return. This is particularly interesting regarding the March Madness participation medals. Those are .999 silver medals. Every single piece was issued. Some Festers probably would like to trade their medals in for a correct one, others would rather have the error I suspect. Would some Festers like to have both? I think so. It was with that idea in mind that I called Wendy.

If you received a silver 2018 Fest medal, you may return it for replacement with the correct edge marking. If you want to keep the incorrect medal and also receive a silver version, you can order one for \$27 postpaid. If you are in this category, please email me to reserve a medal.

See the editorial for additional options.

## Editorial

The post Fest excursion went to the Air Force Museum in Dayton, Ohio and the Motts Military Museum in Columbus, Oh. We had the trip on the schedule for more than a year. In the last few months before the trip, I learned that a section of the World War II gallery at Wright Patterson would be closed during our visit because of preparations for the opening of the Memphis Belle exhibit at the museum. The opening was to be on May 17--exactly 75 years after the Belle's last mission and two weeks after the Fest.

I was thrilled to learn that the Belle would finally be back on display. I had seen her on Mudd Island in Memphis while attending the big paper money show, but the timing was bad.

I wrote to the museum and more or less begged to be allowed to have a peek at Belle while we were there. I pulled out all of the stops. I called us a veteran's group and certainly a group that supported veterans. Oh, by the way, we would have a retired Air Force colonel with us who in Vietnam had flown one of the aircraft that hangs from the ceiling of the museum. We could make this colonel available for interview. We only needed a peek into the exhibit to make us happy and feel like big shots.

Nope. Not a chance. All but go away.

To say that I was disappointed is certainly an understatement. It is a shame that I could not use this space to describe the courteous and special treatment that we had received. Sure we had a great time. We also got a little revenge because it was possible to sneak a small peak of the old girl by looking around the curtain.

So, the exhibit has opened and received lots of attention in national media. Good job on that!

I look forward very much to seeing the entire exhibit. I have a prediction. I bet that while the exhibit will feature the roll of the Memphis Belle in bond sales after returning to the United States. The bet is that in spite of this emphasis, that the exhibit will not include an actual war bond. Probably it will have images of lots of posters but no actual bond or even image of a bond. I will let you know on that.

Furthermore, I have picked out a nice war bond to donate to the museum if they do not have any. The war bond was issued at Boeing Aircraft to a woman in 1944--a Rosie the Riviter.

Back to the Fest challenge coins and 2017 vs 2018 dates. To review. If you want a replacement for your 2018 silver Fest medal (with the XVII date), you can get the correct one by returning the one that you have (start by reserving one with an email to fredschan@yahoo.com). Now the question. Basically, to receive a silver Fest medal, you had to attend the Fest. On occasion there have been a few extras that made their way into the market, but never more than a few. Now, because of this special situation, I have been thinking about opening up the reorders to anyone who would like one.

On balance it seems like a good idea to allow anyone to get one of the silver medals. True, it takes away the exclusivity for this year, but it opens the possibility of reaching out to collectors who have not yet attended a Fest. Finally, I may be making way too big a deal of this. There may not be any interest in these "restrikes."

OK, if you want one of the XIX dated silver medals, reserve one by emailing me. The cost will be \$27 postpaid. Well, \$25 plus \$2 shipping so if you wanted two medals it would be \$52. Thank you very much.

## Letters to the editor

We invite letters on a wide variety of subjects relating to military numismatics. We reserve the right to edit letters to correct obvious errors or to meet Gram editorial standards.

Dear Gram,

Thank you for a wonderful Fest weekend! Having been out of numismatics for almost 8 years, the Fest was a great re-introduction for me. Seeing everyone again, hearing the talks, participating in the Fest activities - though I didn't see as many Festers as I would have liked at the morning swim - reminded me of what a great community I was, and now again, a member of. Though I still don't know what I'll be collecting in the future other than memories, I did come across a few ideas, along with a thought or two on some projects to research. Looking forward to Fest 20!

v/r

Sparky

Dear Esteemed and Honorable MPCGram Editor,

I do not know what you meant by "...important error on a fest item." But I did notice that one of the challenge tokens you gave me this year had this year image with a tank and last year image with an airplane and "75 Years." I was surprised that the airplane and "75 Years" image was used both last year and this year! But I reminded myself of the only fest rule is that "there are no rules."

Thanks,

John Phipps

Dear Gram,

I like the idea of having next year's fest in Chicago. What is it in Port Clinton, Ohio every year?

Gary Ascher

Dear Gary,

I am not sure if your question is: Is the Fest held in Port Clinton every year? or What the heck is in Port Clinton that the Fest is held there every year? That being the case, I will answer (or try to) both.

First, yes, the Fest has been held in Port Clinton all nineteen times. I can understand how you might ask how the Fest came to be in Port Clinton and how the heck it has stayed there.

The first part of that question is easy. Port Clinton is where I live and when I announced the first Fest, I was not sure if anyone would come so that was the safe bet. Actually, I knew that Harold Kroll would come because we had talked about it.

From there it has been something of a necessity. First there is the matter of convenience. There is much more work requiring local coordination that you would expect. Then there is the hotel. The Fest is held at the local Holiday Inn Express. Many Festers believe that this is the best hotel in the country. I believe that it is the best run hotel in the country. Until you come to Port Clinton, you probably

will not understand.

In the early years, there was some talk that the Fest should move to a larger metro area. Two Festers in particular pushed this idea. One never did anything but talk, the other worked hard trying to come up with a package for Indianapolis. He came back with the flat statement that it is impossible to get the level of service that we do for the price anywhere. I told both of the doubters that I would attend their events.

The Festers and the Staff have merged in many ways. The manager of the Holiday Inn makes Fest T shirts every year. Nice you say. These are Fest T shirts for the STAFF!

The tradition of coming to Port Clinton is now strong. I believe that Festers look forward to it. In numismatics I think that Port Clinton means MPCFest. (In shooting it means Camp Perry and in fishing it means walleye.)

It is possible that the Fest will move someday. That will probably be after I die or at least retire and I certainly plan on quite a few more Fests.

I hope that you will give the Fest a try in Port Clinton for Fest XX and Fest XXX!

Editor

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new items next time

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**Editor emeritus and columnist:** Roger Urce  
[stjasele@optonline.net](mailto:stjasele@optonline.net)

**MPC Gram info:** [fredschwan@yahoo.com](mailto:fredschwan@yahoo.com)

**Columnist at large:** Bill Myers

**Columnist at large:** Jim Downey - [mufelika@charter.net](mailto:mufelika@charter.net)

**Fest auctioneer:** Dave Frank - [dave@frankcomputers.com](mailto:dave@frankcomputers.com)

**Fest yearbook editor and photographers:** Kris and Cuneyd Tolek  
- [ctolek@yahoo.com](mailto:ctolek@yahoo.com)

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**MPC Gram Series 19 No. 2364 (Memorial Day 2018 Issue)**

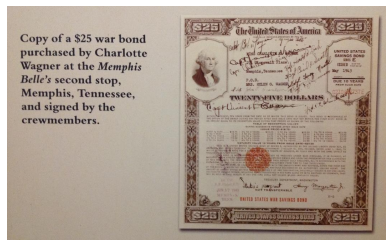
**Belle Opening Spectacular**



by  
Dave Norris

Editor, I hope you were able to get some takers for your bet about the Memphis Belle exhibit at the Air Force museum. But you will only be entitled to a partial payout. I went to the NMUSAF on Monday after the craziness of the weekend's unveiling festivities died down. It is a very nice exhibit, with "Memphis Belle" elevated on supports so that visitors can walk under it, peer up into the bomb bay, admire the ball turret, etc., without bumping their heads. Lots of artifacts and storyboards surround it. I feel like there is room to add much more in the future. You were right that the exhibit did tell about the Belle's role in selling war bonds. There was one panel about the war bond tour, in the middle of walking through the exhibit.





You were right that an actual bond was not on display. However, your ambitions to replace the great Carnac end there, as they did have an image of one on the panel. The original of this would be very desirable to see for obvious reasons. I am not a bond expert; perhaps this is a well known bond and someone else knows where it is. Otherwise, I do not know if the original, or if any war bond, is in the museum's possession. Other facsimiles of original paper items in other displays tend to have verbiage to the effect that the original is in preservation storage, as this Allied propaganda leaflet has. However, not all of the museum's photosensitive paper items kept in preservation storage are marked as such next to their copies in exhibits. The photocopy of the 1946 100 yen note signed by Hideki Tojo and other members of the Japanese high command while awaiting trial does not state that the original is in preservation storage; but according to the museum curators, it is.

[Dave, thank you for the great on site report! The fact that the exhibit does not include an actual war bond (something that we hope to fix) is far overshadowed by the image of the spectacular bond that IS included. My cheer must of course be tempered a bit by the ambiguity that you point out about the whereabouts of this great bond. Perhaps from your close proximity, you can inquire? Otherwise, I can and will inquire. If the museum has the bond, I can understand the desire to protect the original from light damage. That factor would introduce other possibilities such as putting the actual bond on display one day a year (under reduced light) or special occasions (like the opening of the exhibit). There might be possibilities of arranging for a public display at an MPCFest or other appropriate event (ANA Convention, Conneaut D-Day reenactment. There are many possibilities. Overall, it seems that congratulations are certainly in order to the museum for a spectacular event.--editor]

### Editorial

First and foremost I want to wish everyone a happy Memorial Day and encourage everyone to spend at least a few moments over the weekend reflecting on the sacrifice of so many that is honored by the special day. If you have the opportunity, please consider explaining the meaning of the day to a child, grand child, neighbor, or sales clerk who may not understand what the day is about.

I have a confession or at least a report to make. I am not certain of the reason, but in the last few days it occurred to me to go sign in directly to the Yahoo mail box MPCGram. This was the mail box that we used from the early days of the Gram as our editorial address. Roger used it too.

When I came back to the helm of the Gram, I more or less stopped check the MPCGram address. I think that I thought (but am not sure), that I had set up a forwarding from the Gram address to the address based on my name (fredschwan@yahoo.com). I now think that even if that had been done, the forwarding expired or ended without my knowledge.

When I went to the Gram address, I found much mail that I had never before seen. Indeed, I found some that knew about but had never seen. I had heard about them because the sender had followed up my none response with mail to my personal address. It is a comedy of errors.

In the letters section you will find a nice letter from Mike M. about a Gram from months ago. I am particularly sad that I had missed that letter because Mike is not a frequent writer to the Gram and I certainly would have wanted to reinforce the appropriate behavior of writing to the Gram by reinforcing it with publication. I am sorry, Mike.

So what now? I am going to work on the MPCGram inbox and continue to use my fred schwan address. I am not sure what we will want to do for the long term. Probably we will want to maintain the MPCGram address and start using it for Gram correspondence.

### Letters to the editor

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Dear Editor,

You cited "American Nightingale" by Bob Welch, about the life and death of 2LT Frances Y. Slanger, the American nurse who went ashore with the 45th Medical Platoon on D-Day plus 4. You noted the lack of direct numismatic citations in the book. On your recommendation, I just finished reading it, and I found one quick statement that as they neared the Siegfried Line, the 45th was paid in part in German marks. Clearly, someone at the Treasury Department was buying German currency. That may be a story worth pursuing.

Best Regards,  
Mike M.

Dear Mike,

I am flattered that you took my advice and read this book! The line you mention is of course very interesting. Did I miss it myself?

I agree that Treasury was on the ball, but my take is slightly different. My guess is that the marks in question were Allied military marks. They were intended and did circulate along with the Reich mark. The recipients (Allies), all marks would be German marks. Still, it is great line. Sorry that I missed it and that you shared it with us.

I am also sorry that it took three months to get your letter into the Gram (see editorial above).

Editor

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## **MPC Gram Series 19 No. 2365**

Allied Military marks commentary

by Jim Downey

Neither the Treasury or Army Finance would have bought RM notes for pay purposes. The whole reason for issuing occupation currency is to impose upon the occupied country the costs incurred by the occupier. Buying foreign exchange would put that cost on the occupier.

After a German town with a Reichsbank branch was taken, one of the first steps taken was to secure the bank and seize the currency stocks. That action was done to keep the currency from the Germans not for it to be used by the Allies. The impounded currency was eventually returned to the Reichsbank after the war.

### **Editorial**

The burning issue is the dates for Fest 20. We have let the matter set for a few issues, but now we really must get to a decision. When we last discussed the matter, I stated that it looked like we would have to abandon the first weekend in May date because of a conflict with an important Fester (important like all Festers). It turns out that there are other problems with all of the April dates, so I talked with the Fester with the conflict. It turns out that his conflict is for Thursday May 2. He would be disappointed to miss marksmanship training, but would be able to come to the Fest on Friday morning and has agreed to take one for the team so to speak. So, one last time. We are about to lock in the 3-5 May dates for Fest XX, if you know of any additional or serious problems with these dates, please speak up now. No, shout out now! Write to me at fredschiwan@yahoo.com (because we continue to work on the forwarding of MPCGram@yahoo.com address).

Memphis (meaning Kansas City) IPMS is virtually upon us and the ANA Summer Seminar looms thereafter. I am in crisis to prepare for these. I do not even know if I will make it to Kansas City. I know that I can count on Gram readers to scoop up the bargains and rarities for me if I do not make it.

### **Letters to the editor**

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Dear Editor,

I haven't received the Gram for months now. Can you make sure you have my correct address?

Also, is the new book out and if so, where can I get one?

Thanks. Bill

Dear Bill,

Well, the first question might be easier than the second. I have added your address to the Gram subscription list and sent you a trial issue which you acknowledged receiving. That is good news. Now we must know if you receive this issue sent by routine means.

Assuming that you do receive this issue, we must wonder why your address had stopped working. Please confirm that you receive this.

The second question is the more difficult one. The fifth edition of the MPC catalog is indeed important and landmark edition. As I look around my office (aka black hole), I do not see even a single copy. It must be sold out.

The other possibility is that it has not yet been finished. How could that be? The fourth edition came out in 2002. There have been many discoveries since then and we have been working on the fifth edition for several years.

Sadly, that must be the case. No, the fifth edition is struggling along. I do plan (hope?) to have it out this year. It is essential, actually. So, keep reading your Gram for news!

Bill, you have been missed at the Fest, too. We look forward to having you at Fest 20!

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**MPC Gram Series 19 No. 2366**



Series - E  
Serial No. - Q616014095E  
Issue Date - V.E. Day May 8, 1945

**Disney characters award certificate discovery?**

by Bill Myers

I know that US war bonds have been stamped to commemorate events, like the anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor. I came across a Disney characters award certificate on E-bay that is dated 8 MAY 1945, VE day. On the back is "Series - E / Serial No. Q616014095E / Issue date - V.E. May 8, 1945".

First, the certificate is authentic, as it has the watermark. For me this is the first time I have seen anything commemorated on an award certificate. It was put on with a typewriter rather than a stamp, so it is an expedient but it still commemorates the date the bond was sold. I know David Seelye did a lot of research on the award certificates so he may have seen an award certificate that has been stamped or another fester may have seen one. I am curious what other festers have found.

**CNA Featured Speaker on World War II Issues**

from Dick Dunn

The Royal Canadian Numismatic Association will hold its annual convention in Mississauga, Ontario August 7 - 11. The convention will meet in the Hilton Mississauga 6750 Mississauga Road, Mississauga, Ontario L5H 2C3 For full details of the convention please go to [www.rcna.ca](http://www.rcna.ca). The Canadian Paper Money Society will hold its 54<sup>th</sup> Annual luncheon and general Meeting on

Friday August 10<sup>th</sup> at 12.00 noon. The guest speaker is Paul S. Berry, Chief Curator, National Currency Collection, Bank of Canada. The topic will be about the debt issues of World War II, bonds and saving certificates, and the use of ration coupons.

## Preparation for Colorado Springs

by Joe Boling

This is my advisory column for persons coming to the ANA Summer Seminar - what to pack.

If you are staying in the dorms, you will be provided with bath towels and slivers of soap, but NOT face cloths. If you are one who uses a face cloth to bathe, shower, or shave, bring a couple and a plastic bag to pack the wet one in on the last morning. If you want to use a hand towel for those trips to the sink between showers, bring them also.

Only a very few (or no) hangers are left in the closets when the Colorado College students leave for the summer. Bring a good supply of hangers for your shirts or blouses and trousers.

If you are driving, and want to work at your desk in the evenings, bring a desk lamp. The overhead lights in the dorms are not very bright. Even if you are flying to Colorado, bringing a Tensor lamp (or equivalent) might be possible.

If you are planning to make the trip up Pikes Peak, bring a jacket, and maybe a hat. The weather up there is usually very different from what is down below. For the week in the Springs, casual wear. The staff members have been known to castigate folks for appearing in a tie and jacket.

Bring an umbrella - it is not uncommon to have a thunderstorm every afternoon of the session.

If you will be sunning yourself on the patio (or just playing poker out there in the afternoon), bring sun screen. At 6000 feet elevation, the sun burns much faster than at low elevations.

If you have some numismatic white elephants, consider donating them to the YN auctions. The YN contingent will be soliciting donations of material to be sold (there is a YN auction in each week). Auction lots will be accepted starting at the registration site Saturday, and Sunday evening. Bring your check book also, so that you can buy items from the auction. \$50 bottles of water have been known to find new homes during those events. You won't want to miss bidding on that Australian delicacy, Vegemite, should any Aussies show up.

If you are already a fester or a returning seminarian, bring that pay book. The penalties for appearing for pay without a pay book can be severe. Don't forget your challenge coin also, and keep it close by. If you attended Fest XIX, bring your current MFC (Series 181).

Bring both *World War II Remembered* and the 4th edition *MPC Comprehensive Catalog*, if you own them. If you do not own them, there may be copies to borrow, but both are out of print.

If you have any military currencies (particularly of the years covered by the seminar class, 1930-date) that are mysteries, bring them. If we can't unravel the mysteries, we will at least get to see your treasures and record them for the next edition of SB. You are welcome to bring as much else of your collection as you desire to share, but there is limited security capability (space in the ANA museum, subject to restricted hours of access). I've not heard of anyone losing material from the dorm rooms, but there is only minimal security there.

If you collect fest certificates, consider bringing that collection so that researchers can record serial numbers and you have your material close at hand for trading.

If you own a UV lamp and a good loupe or hand-held microscope, bring them (and mark them with your name/phone number). Bring a millimeter scale. Bring your digital camera for recording images of notes and ancillary material (and your classmates).

You can see from this list that the seminars tend to the very practical side, dealing with the actual materials as much as possible, rather than catalog listings of them. And if this brief message makes you wish that you were coming, start planning for 2020.

Class hours changed in 2014. Now that classes start on Sunday morning, the Colorado Springs coin show no longer has Sunday hours. If you want to go to the show, you will have to get through registration Saturday and hustle up to the show venue. The seminar opening ceremony is 1800 Saturday; take a bus back from the show in time to attend.

To accommodate as many arriving seminarians/festers as possible, any minifest conducted Saturday might want to be scheduled for after the 1600 IBNS chapter meeting (where Boling is the speaker).

See you in Colorado.

## Editorial

The word that I have received about Memphis, er, Kansas City is that it was a very good show. Unfortunately, the Gram has not received any actual reports of the show. We can use same!

As implied by Joe's annual Seminar preparation report above, this is a busy time of the year for me. On top of everything is the excitement about the military numismatics seminar. This will be the seventeenth such seminar. The first military seminar was held in 2001 and was held each year through 2016. In 2017 we instituted a new plan where we will have a seminar every other year thereby giving the system more time to generate more students for a class. Obviously, the number of students in a class impacts the costs to the ANA, but the number also affects learning. More students bring more diverse collecting backgrounds, ideas and likely most importantly questions.

I do not recall if I have ever here in the Gram given my two rules for questions. I know the old saying that there are no bad questions. Well, I look at it differently. I tell the students that there are two types (classes) of questions that I will not answer. Those are questions that are beyond the scope of the class and those that are beyond the scope of the instructor!

I have fun in class and I always learn things. I believe that the students feel the same way. There are some really good candidates to take the class whom I hope to see at the next seminar. That likely will not be until 2020. That should be a very special seminar--the very first seminar in a repeater year!

I know that I have fun and learn a lot at the seminar and believe that the students do as well.

## Letters to the editor

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Dear Editor,

I am happy to report that I had the chance to talk with Val May, but I am unhappy to report that she is and has been quite ill for several months or more. I am sure that she would be happy to receive your greetings. I do not know if she is checking email, but she can receive snail mail greetings at 8770 SW 51st St, Miami, FL 33165.

Thank you,

The Boss

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FROM AUGUST 7<sup>TH</sup> TO AUGUST 11<sup>TH</sup>**

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new items next time

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**MPC Gram Series 19 No. 2367**



**Manila mint postcards**

by John Phipps

As some Festers, Gramsters and other may know, I have been searching for postcards of the U.S. government mints for the past 10 years. Today I received my fifth postcard of the Manila mint building. It is a postcard with two images, one a 1945 photo of the building in ruins and the other a 1950 photo after the building was rebuilt. I would be interested in hearing if others know of more postcards of this building.





### **French Southeast Asia Coins & Currency**

by Howard A. Daniel III

The third edition of this catalog was just published in March in the USA because I could not get it past the censors in Viet Nam. It has 296 pages and over 1000 pieces. Over 40 of the pages concern WWII and contain much new information about that era. Only 250 of the books were printed and my retailer, Wayne Herndon, at Wizard Coin Supply in Chantilly, VA sold his first supply and I have restocked him. Go to [www.wizardcoinsupply.com](http://www.wizardcoinsupply.com) and you can see it and other books by typing Daniel in his search. The early buyers have sent me some corrections so please contact me for the latest list of them. My new contact information in Florida is in the book.

### **Time change**

Many MPC collectors and Festers will be in attendance at this show. The IBNS Rocky Mountain chapter meeting will be at 3 pm Saturday 23 June. Joe Boling will present a program on counterfeiting of interest to all paper money collectors. Note the time is a change from a previous announcement.

By tradition a Mini Fest will be held in conjunction with this meeting. However, instead of being after the meeting, the Mini Fest will be before the IBNS meeting because the hall will close at 1600 hrs. Festers and interested personnel should meet at 1430 hrs. at the announced site for the IBNS meeting.

### **Editorial**

I only sent out Gram 2366 early this morning, and I am nearly finished with 2367! I suppose the biggest factor is time pressure. I am departing soon for the Summer Seminar. Although I can and will send out a Gram or two from Colorado, I wanted to get this one in the bank before I leave. Before I leave here, I will put this Gram in the cue to be sent by our service at some time that I will select. I have experimented with this capability a few times, but I never actually used it to full advantage.

My current preference based up tracking of when readers open the Gram is to send Grams on Friday afternoons allowing a weekend for reading. I messed that up some by sending out 2366 on Thursday. By Friday afternoon about half of the expected readers have opened 2366 so I do not want to pile Grams up in mailboxes by sending this one out too soon.

### **Letters to the editor**

We invite letters on a wide variety of subjects relating to military numismatics. We reserve the right to edit letters to correct obvious errors or to meet Gram editorial standards.



Dear Esteemed Editor,

*I am now working on the 2nd edition of my Republic of Viet Nam Coins & Currency and digging into my boxes related to it. I just found a medal which will be of interest to you and some of your readers. It is a Tuy Hoa Air Base Project TurnKey medal!*

*The Master Sergeant Daniel*

Dear Howard,  
Wow, a really cool medal.

editor

### **Training Schedule (Gram Calendar)**

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#### MPC Gram Series 19 No. 2368

##### After Action Report: International Paper Money Show 2018

submitted by Louise Boling, PIO

Though in a new venue, the "Memphis" show remains a premiere event for paper money collectors, and this new city is displaying charms of its own. The youngest Fester in attendance, Leo Feller, will be glad to tell you about all the trains he was able to see. Other Festers in attendance: Steve Feller, Ray Feller, Joseph and Louise Boling, Neil Shafer, Dave Seelye, Dave Frank, Roger Urce, Carlson Chambliss, John Phipps, Wendell Wolka, Bill Brandimore, Larry Keefe, Clifford Mishler.

Thursday morning during show set up time the Society of Paper Money Collectors (SPMC) had arranged a guided tour of the KC Federal Reserve Bank J-10. Eric, our guide, was very knowledgeable, but also very receptive to the corrections he received from his attentive tour group for a number of errors.

Highlights of the show included the annual SPMC breakfast on Friday morning, with presentation of the SPMC literary awards, and the Tom Bain raffle, co-led by our own Wendell Wolka. The Fest table did moderately well on the raffle, with Fester Wolka utilizing the ESP for which he is famous to determine that certain persons were indeed winners when the tickets as drawn were unclear. SPMC literary awards included a shared award to Fred Schwan and Joe Boling for their monthly column, "Uncoupled," and both first and second place awards for most popular article about world paper money to Carlson Chambliss. Fester Shafer earned the IBNS's Amon Carter, Jr. award for the best exhibit of world paper money. He showed German notgeld surcharged to high denominations during the post-WWI hyperinflation.

Saturday evening a group of us went to a very special barbecue restaurant: Q39. Pictures were taken by Ray Feller, and sent to Larry "Mr. 39" Smulczewski. The evening closed with a Fest coin challenge offered by Leo Feller and successfully met by all present.

The Huntoon lecture series, given over Friday and Saturday, included 12 speakers, of whom 6 were Festers: Roger Urce: *Japanese Colonial Issues for Taiwan*; Joseph Boling: *Boneheaded Fakers - Obvious Errors that All Collectors Can Use to Identify Bad Paper*; Carlson Chambliss: *Philippine Emergency Paper Money, 1941-1945*; Bill Brandimore: *Collecting Small Size Federal Reserve Notes with an Emphasis on \$5s*; Ray and Steve Feller: *Overprints on WWII Currency*; and Wendell Wolka: *Confederate Printers-the Good, Bad, and Ugly*.

Several clubs of interest to Festers held meetings. At the IBNS general membership meeting Joseph Boling spoke on a group of six vintage Chinese notes, some with military connections. All of them are replicas. Some were distressed to appear well circulated. The notes had passed through both Neil's and Joe's hands before the owner sent them to Hong Kong, where hopefully they were not well-received. Following the IBNS meeting, a Mini-Fest occurred. No pay call was held, since all attendees were in non-duty status. However, there was an excellent display of show-and-tell items, and much fellowship.

##### Camp Wilde Opens

The seventeenth military numismatics summer seminar started on Sunday morning 23 June at Camp Adne Wilde, Colorado Springs, Colorado on the campus of Colorado College.



After introductions and training on pay call procedures, students practiced with training notes. Allied Fest Certificates Supplemental francs Series 1943 were issued in pay to the students. Payday activities were curtailed in favor of training. Scraps from the production of this issue will be sold in a sealed priority mail envelope in the YN charity auction on Tuesday evening.



This is the 50th anniversary Summer Seminar. A commemorative note was issued for the occasion. Every student received a note in their welcome packet. The beautiful notes were printed by Great Lakes Bank Note company.  
The first such seminar was held in 2001. They were held each year until 2017 when a plan was instituted to hold military classes every other year.

### Editorial

The start of the military class at the summer seminar is exciting for me. I consider it a privilege to share our wonderful niche of numismatics with the students and with every other person that I can get to listen!

This year we have seven students. That is a robust number in my opinion, but of course we would always like to have more. I think that the alternating year plan is a good one from this perspective. On the other hand, two years is a long time to wait if one is focused on our class. I know of a young numismatist who is a great candidate for our class since he is an avid MPC collector. I hate it that he will not be able to take the military class until 2020, but that should be a really great class! I am looking forward to it.

As described in the above news story sweepings from the floor of Great Lakes Bank Note Company from the production of the Allied Fest Certificates will be sold sight unseen in the YN auction on Tuesday evening. It is not certain that we will have another Gram before that sale so interested bidders should send bids to [joeboling@aol.com](mailto:joeboling@aol.com). If you wish to phone bid, arrange that too with Joe. There is a rumor that a specimen sheet of specimens the 50th Anniversary Seminar notes will appear in the same auction. Again, you can make provisional bidding arrangements with Joe. Of course, as usual the proceeds from these sales go to the ANA Summer Seminar YN program.

### Letters to the editor

We invite letters on a wide variety of subjects relating to military numismatics. We reserve the right to edit letters to correct obvious errors or to meet Gram editorial standards.

Greetings from sunny Albuquerque and Warner Talso!

I had lunch with him today and he asked to be remembered to all. He is recovering from a series of falls. He states that his major issues are balance and loss of strength, but with daily physical and occupational therapy, he notes almost daily improvement. He was interested to hear about Fest and IPMC activities, and very regretful at missing them and summer seminar. We enjoyed an excellent meal at his current residence, the Canyon Transitional and Skilled Nursing Facility, room #103. The address there is 10101 Lagrima De Oro Rd NE, Albuquerque NM 87111. I think he would probably enjoy cards.  
Louise Boling

Dear Louise (and Warner),

Thank you for the report. After careful consideration, we have decided to take Warner off the Camp Adne Wilde AWOL list.

Editor

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#### **MPC Gram Series 19 No. 2369**

##### **Camp Adna Wilde Closes**



The 2018 Military Numismatics Seminar closed on Wednesday afternoon Wednesday 27 June until the next seminar (likely in 2020). Highlights of the seminar includes pay call on 24 June and conversion on the closing day from Allied Fest Certificates Series 1943 and 1943A to MFC Series 181 on the 27. ANA President Gary Adkins Visited the class as did past president Ken Hallenbeck. The visit by Adkins was the first every by a sitting president to a military seminar class. President Adkins asked relevant questions about military payment certificates indicating knowledge of the subject.

This was a bit of an unusual seminar for me. I only spent one week in Colorado Springs and I did not wander enroute either direction. Specifically, I missed visiting several collector friends (Larry, Dave and Steve) whom I had planned on seeing. We wound up blasting through the countryside instead of finding adventures. I hope to do better next year. Oops, that might have to be the year after next.

##### **Boxes of banknotes - March 9, 1945**

##### **Voyage of the banknotes - March 9, 1945**

Jean MANESCAU  
(Translation by Richard C. Taylor)

In March 1945, I was in Haiphong on vacation with my parents. Indeed, having completed my Law degree and a PhD in private law at the Faculty of Law of Indochina in Hanoi (called at that time, Ecole Supérieure de Droit), I was working since September 1943 at the Cabinet of Fernand Fays, notary in Saigon. On the occasion of the 1945 Tet festivals (Vietnamese New Year), Mr. Fays had authorized me to take a few weeks' vacation with my parents in Tonkin, taking the Trans-Indochina train from Saigon to Hanoi, even though the railway between Hue and Hanoi was often cut off by American and Allied bombing, affecting bridges on the railway and requiring passengers to be transferred from one river bank to another to take a new train.

On March 8<sup>th</sup>, 1945, having finished my holidays, I was in Hanoi ready to take the train to Saigon despite that Allied bombardments had just cut off the railroad tracks around Vinh, thus delaying my departure.

I learned that Mr. Paul Gannay, Inspector General of the Bank of Indochina, was about to leave for Saigon with a truck carrying about thirty boxes of banknotes. The truck had to stop at Dong Hoi (Annam) where the banknotes would be transferred to a train going to Saigon.

So I went to the Bank of Indochina in Hanoi on March 8<sup>th</sup>, 1945 to see Mr. Gannay who confirmed that he was leaving the following day March 9<sup>th</sup> at 6am, conveying a truck carrying about 30 boxes of unissued Piastres banknotes, newly printed by the IDEO, and destined for Saigon via Dong Hoi.

Mr. Gannay accepted without difficulty that I accompany him, happy even that I could eventually help him transfer the boxes of banknotes from the truck to the railway wagon which was reserved for Dong Hoi.

So we left on the morning of March 9<sup>th</sup> aboard a Military Aviation truck under the command of a Chief-Adjutant officer and arrived at Dong Hoi late at night. The military truck was stored inside the Indochinese Guard compound and Mr. Gannay wished to spend the night in blankets near the banknote boxes in the truck with his servant named Ban. I also spent the night with them.

The next day, March 10<sup>th</sup> around 7am, we went to the Dong Hoi Bungalow, the local hotel, for lunch. In the Dong Hoi street separating the Indochinese Guard from the Bungalow, we met a French passer-by who said that, "French Indochina was no longer French" and Radio-Saigon had just announced that the Japanese army had attacked and neutralized all French garrisons the day before, March 9<sup>th</sup>, at 8 pm, and enacted a proclamation obliging French nationals to remain concentrated in 7 cities (Hanoi, Haiphong, Hue, Nha Trang, Saigon, Phnom Penh and Tourane) under curfew. The statements of this passer-by astonished us, as in this same street, we saw Japanese soldiers passing by, showing no aggressive signs towards us.

So we therefore went to eat at the Bungalow when we saw coming, the Chief-Adjutant officer who had escorted our truck. He informed us that he had been ordered to go the nearest airport, which was, the Dong Hoi Airport. As a result, Mr. Gannay asked him to immediately transfer the boxes of banknotes from the truck parked at the Indochina Guard to the Dong Hoi railway station, 3 or 4 kilometers away, where a train wagon of the "Compagnie de Chemins de Fer" had been reserved by Mr. Gannay.

The transfer was immediately done and we settled in the wagon with the banknotes. What surprised us was that the Japanese soldiers, stationed in the Dong Hoi station and charged with its surveillance, showed no aggressive attitude towards us.

On the other hand, around 11 am, a train arrived from Vinh in direction of Hue, and stopped at the Dong Hoi station. Immediately the platoon of Japanese soldiers from the station rushed to the French passengers descending the train to ask them to line up and go to the premises next to the station. Seeing this, M. Gannay, his servant and I, shut ourselves up in our freight wagon with the banknotes.

An hour later we heard the loud noise of planes flying over the station at low altitude and Mr. Gannay concluded that US or Allied aircraft was about to bomb the Dong Hoi and its railway station. He decided, therefore, that we should immediately shelter ourselves in the nearest trenches from these possible bombardments. This air alert lasted about a half an hour and, after the departure of the planes, M. Gannay decided that we should return to our wagon, which we did at once; the wagon being about 100 meters from the trenches we occupied. But, on the way, we encountered a group of armed Japanese soldiers who rushed over to search us. Mr. Gannay, who had a revolver in one of his pockets, refused to voluntarily hand it over and it was forcibly removed by a shouting Japanese soldier. I hastened to calm Mr. Gannay by asking him to follow the instructions of the armed Japanese. These soldiers took us to a building adjoining the station where there was a group of four or five Frenchmen like us, also prisoners of the Japanese.

Thereupon, a new loud noise was heard, revealing the passage of several American or Allied aircraft at low altitude, above the station. M. Gannay, traumatized by the new raid, was convinced that a bombardment of the station would take place. He asked us to return to the trenches which were in an open area not far from our building. But all the doors of our building were guarded by armed Japanese soldiers.

Mr. Gannay successively asked each of the soldiers for permission to go into the trenches, but each time received a refusal. He also asked me to demand permission but I received the same harsh refusals. Mr. Gannay asked again to go out, but, exasperated by his insistence, the Japanese soldier slapped Mr. Gannay. The latter, who at the age of seventy had never been slapped, and with an understandable reflex, immediately slapped back the Japanese soldier, who, furious with anger, struck Mr. Gannay on the head with the butt of his rifle and kicked him, calling the other Japanese sentinels to come over to beat Mr. Gannay who was on the ground.

The four or five Frenchmen present and I were dismayed and tried to calm the Japanese commander by telling him that he was an old man not to be mistreated. The soldiers finally calmed down, especially since the first blow from rifle butt had burst the scalp of Mr. Gannay, who was almost bald and had caused a large swell and uninterrupted blood flow. The waves of blood surprised the soldiers who stopped.

We had to look after Mr. Gannay without a doctor nor medication! After washing his wounds, especially on the head, we had the idea to take one or two cigarettes, which we possessed as rations, stripped them of their paper, and used the black tobacco like strips of plaster on the wounds to stop the bleeding.

Soon after, our Japanese captors returned threatening and putting a revolver on Mr. Gannay's temple, saying: "In five minutes you will be shot", this accompanied by unequivocal contemptuous gestures. Then, to the 5 other French people, including myself, they repeated their gestures by putting their revolver on our temples, promising us an execution within the next 5 minutes, and pointing their finger at their chronometers ...

After their departure, I was ulcerated by all their intimidations, not really knowing if they were pretending. It was then, that I allowed myself to respectfully reprimand Mr. Gannay by saying: "You have exaggerated and now we are going to pay!" Mr. Gannay apologized. Our captors then returned and again pointed their revolver at Mr. Gannay's temple telling him that he would be executed in 5 minutes. Then, pointing their revolver at our temples, telling us this time that we would be tied up, and miming the operation with their wrists crossed. They then left and I allowed myself to say to Mr. Gannay: "There is progress! I will be tied up, but not executed!" They came back a half an hour later, bringing us food: rice and fruit.

The next day, we returned to the Indochinese Guard where we found other Frenchmen from Dong Hoi, prisoners like us. It should be noted that the Japanese coup which started on March 9<sup>th</sup>, 1945 had reached the Dong Hoi station on March 10<sup>th</sup> at 11 am.

A few days later, Mr. Gannay, his servant and I went to the Dong Hoi Bungalow, under house arrest. In early April, a bus from Vinh filled with French people arrived at Dong Hoi. These French, around 10 or 15 in number, asked me to join them with the permission of the Japanese. I received their authorization and arrived in Hue on this bus, from where we took the train to Saigon.

Mr. Gannay was refused this authorization and remained at Dong Hoi until May-June, when he was permitted to rejoin Saigon with his servant.

The train wagon filled with the banknotes went to Saigon under the supervision of the Japanese and was handed over to the Bank of Indochina at Saigon in May or June 1945.

Source:

[http://www.anai-asso.org/NET/document/le\\_temps\\_de\\_la\\_guerre/le\\_temps\\_de\\_la\\_guerre\\_19401955/2\\_guerre\\_indochine/caisses\\_billets/index.htm](http://www.anai-asso.org/NET/document/le_temps_de_la_guerre/le_temps_de_la_guerre_19401955/2_guerre_indochine/caisses_billets/index.htm)

#### Allied Fest Certificates Series 1943A



Seminar students received travel pay on Monday 25 June. The packets included certificates from Series 1943A. This series had not been seen earlier. They were paid equally with Series 1943. All Allied Fest Certificates were converted from AFC to Military Fest Certificates Series 181 on 27 June. Cancelled Series 1943 and 1943A were seen at the seminar banquet that evening and were

eagerly grabbed by collectors. Many traditional coin collectors were observed discussing and studying their certificates and few were found on tables after the banquet and those were snatched by some aggressive collectors.

### Editorial

Seminar was a hoot as always. I carefully called the seminar the 2018 seminar rather than the 17th Seminar because, well, I am not sure how many seminars we have had! The first Fest was in 2000 and the first seminar in 2001. The problem is that since we have started the alternate year schedule for the seminar, I am not sure how many seminars we have had. Have we skipped once or twice? I am just not sure. Joe assured me that we have had two skips, but I am just not sure.

As always, the 2018 Seminar was great in just about every way. The students were eager and I believe that we all learned much. This will be the first Gram for a few of the seminar students. I hope that they will participate as much in the Gram as they did in class! They can start with letters to the editor with comments (good or bad) about the seminar!

### Letters to the editor

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Dear Editor,  
Happy 4th of July to all Gramsters!

Bill Myers,

Dear First Sergeant,  
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If any students received any serial number 2 notes in pay, I would be happy to make a trade for them!

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FROM AUGUST 7<sup>TH</sup> TO AUGUST 11<sup>TH</sup>**

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March 28-30 ANA National Money Show details needed

April 12-14 Ontario Numismatic Association convention, Valkenburg,  
Michigan State

April 24-29 Central States Numismatic Society, Schaumburg, IL, details  
needed

May 2-4 MPCFest XX. Holiday Inn Express, 50 NE Catawba Road, Port  
Clinton, OH 43452.

Coordinating information:

Fest sponsors Brett Irick, Dave Seelye, Harold Kroll, Dave Hunsicker, Al  
Glaser, Warner Talso, Steve and Ray Feller, Joe and Louise Boling, Dave  
Frank welcome Festers to Camp Leo May.

Reservations call Kim at 419 732 7322. Chat or questions call Fred at 419  
349 1872.

Program submissions: RayFeller@gmail.com. Send approved electronic  
programs to JoeBoling@aol.com.

Fest dates above plus two days post MPCFest road trip! TBA

Gram Exchange

Do you have something for sale (or trade)? You can offer these items here in the Gram Exchange. Send your text and images (!) to the editor for inclusion in the Gram Exchange. Please send the images in jpeg format with each image in a separate file.

I have several copies of Fred's 4th edition available at \$50 post paid USA only.



Great pair of Japanese War bonds. The pair for \$30 (three pair available).  
Fredschwan@yahoo.com.

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## **MPC Gram Series 19 No. 2370**

### **Shafer Tapped**

The Society of Paper Money Collectors inducted Neil Shafer into its hall of fame at the International Paper Money Show in Kansas City in June. This high honor recognized Shafer's life time and selfless service to the paper money hobby and community.

Shafer is a leader in promoting the collecting and study of military money. He is a three time national champion and recipient of the Ray Toy award among many other awards.

Shafer and Joe Boling are the only to collectors to have been elected to the SPMC and International Bank Note Society halls of fame. Furthermore, Shafer is also in the HOF of the American Numismatic Association!

### **Trip to Colorado**

by Bill Myers

Kathy & I decided to visit her sister who lives north of Colorado Springs, CO and we chose the weekend of the Colorado Coin Show to make the trip. We do not like spending all of our time driving, so we planned a few stops.

Our first stop was the Pueblo CO Weisbrod Aircraft Museum which is a combination of the Weisbrod Museum and the International B-24 Memorial Museum. It is located on the site of the Pueblo Army Air Base, which was built in 1941 as an advanced flying school to train [B-17 Flying Fortress](#) and [B-24 Liberator](#) crews. The museum has a large variety of aircraft, vehicles and other items. Those of interest to this group are notes, coins, ration items, sales tax tokens (Colorado fiber tokens from WWII) a Japan war bond, US war savings stamps and bond, and short snorters related to WWII. The museum also houses one of the 8 official copies of the Japanese surrender document. We found it worth visiting. It is open 7 days a week (hours vary) and vets and seniors are admitted for \$7.

The next museum we visited is the 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division Museum, which is located outside gate 2 of Fort Carson in Colorado Springs, and is open Monday to Friday. Admission is free. The museum covers the history of the 4<sup>th</sup> ID. There were no numismatic items in the museum but there was a wooden box made by a POW. The base served as a POW camp from 1943 to 1946 and housed 9,000 prisoners. I was told there are no remnants of the camp. It does not take long to go through the museum but is worth a visit if you are in Colorado Springs. It is open Monday to Friday 100-1600.

We did drop by Hallenbeck's Coin Shop and the ANA library to do some research. I stopped by Joe Boling's class and fester Larry Keefe was there, trying to pass the course one more time.

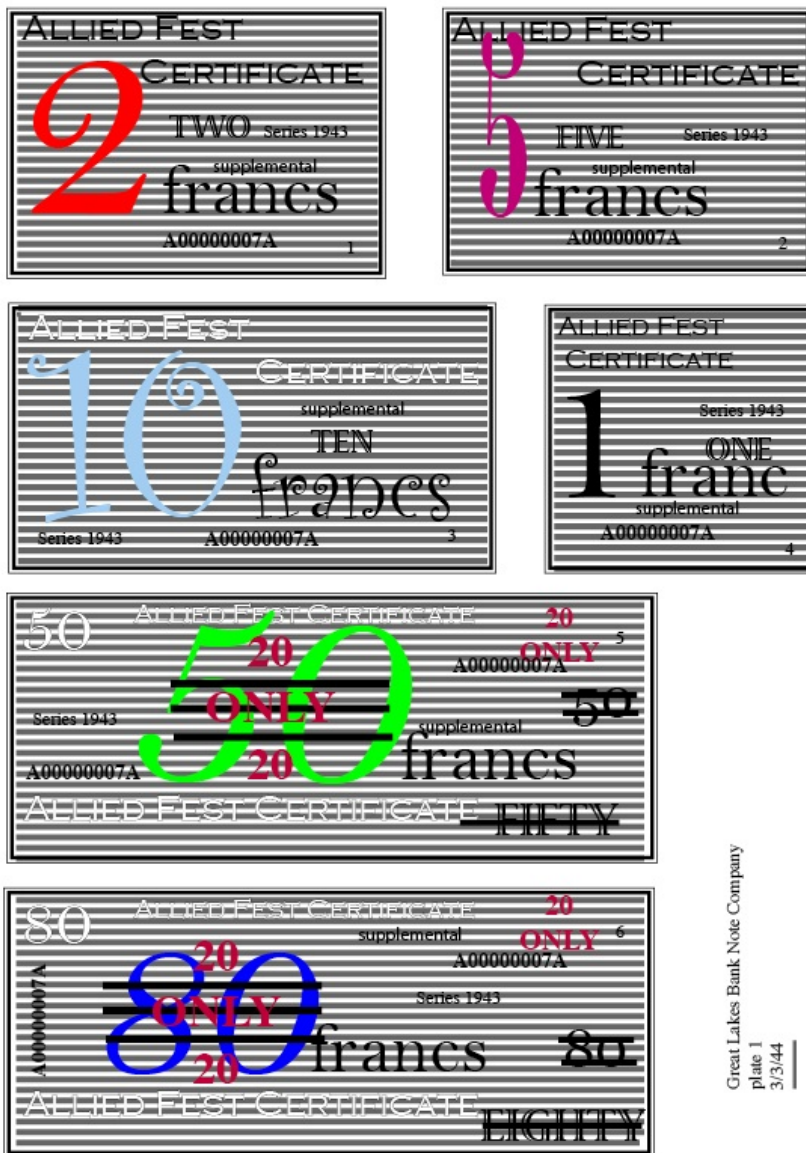
We also spent a day at the Colorado Coin Show and obtained some coins and medals. No major rarities were located.

After spending a few days with Kathy's sister we headed south. In north Albuquerque, NM we stopped at the Anderson Abruzzo Albuquerque International Balloon Museum. There were no military numismatic items but there was an interesting WWII item in the museum. They have an original Japanese fusan bakudan (balloon bomb) on display. The balloon is folded up and in a case. Another case housed the device carried by the balloon. The balloons were launched in Japan and they used the jet stream to reach the United States, where they were to release incendiary bombs. The balloons were very ineffective. One was found in Oregon in 1945 and approached by a group of civilians (mostly children) and it exploded killing 6 people, the only Americans killed in the continental US by enemy action. The museum is open Tuesday to Sunday 0900-1700 and is \$2 for seniors. There are other balloon related exhibits but the balloon bomb was the main focus of our trip. To us that was worth the price of admission.

We then travelled south from the Balloon Museum to the Holocaust and Intolerance Museum of New Mexico. It is small and half of it is about the holocaust. Of interest to this group is a postage stamp from Theresienstadt and Lodz ghettos, Lodz ghetto 1 mark note and 50 pf, 1, 2 & 3 mark notes from Buchenwald. There was an interesting non-numismatic item and it is the Flossenbürg flag. When the war ended the prisoners at Flossenbürg concentration camp made US, British and Russian flags, (it is believed they are painted over a German flag) to display. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Army liberated the camp on 23 April 1945. Roy Shafer was allowed to take the flag and he donated it to the museum where it is on display. The museum is open Tuesday to Sunday, 1100-1500. Admission is free and if you go on-line to the museum site you can get a permit to park in the lot across the street for free. It is small but worth a visit.

Our last stop in Albuquerque was to visit Warner Talso in the rehabilitation center he was in. He had some complications from two falls which including an operation on a hematoma around the brain. We can say Warner looked and sounded great. He was due to be discharged two days after that visit and stay with family. I look forward to him making it to Fest XX.

Seminar Student Report



by Fabrizio

This year I had the luck and privilege to be selected as recipient for the military numismatic scholarship. A sincere thank you to anyone who was part of the selection committee and all those who have contributed to the fund to make the scholarship possible.

I have been initiated in this field by flipping through the book "World War II Remembered" and therefore it was an honor to attend a class held by the "uncoupled" authors of this book: Fred Schwan and Joseph E. Boling.

Fred with his outgoing attitude would burst out any presentation he was running, with great stories and the immanicible: "I am having goose bumps while recalling this story." Soon followed by a "where was I with this presentation?...ah, yes!" and move ahead.

Joe has a quieter nature. Like a steady flowing river which carries water ahead, no matter what, he would take you through anything he was explaining from A to Z. He has always well researched and documented presentations.

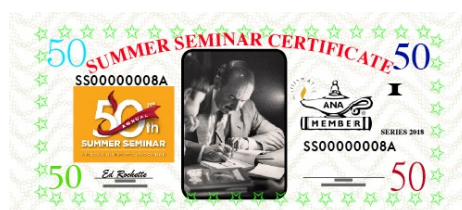
From a student perspective, both methods work to keep up a good learning pace and a fun class environment that easily develops into a camaraderie.

Students go through a real practice to understand how military money were used and distributed. You line up to report to (and salute!) your superior officer, hand out your pay-book to receive your share of MFC. To avoid push ups, never forget to show your ration card to purchase your rationed items at the "Tiny Canteen" or if, let's say, a new series of MFC is released and you need to convert the previous ones you were left with. I guess I have been spared several hundred push ups for not following rules.

The class focuses on the theaters of WWII in Europe and the Pacific. Fred explains MPC and AMC concepts, series evolution, code names (Tomcat, ToyHorse, WildDog, anyone?) and, as well, never released series.

Joe maps out the various Japanese currencies throughout the invaded territories, well before WWII, and the plans Japan had to keep the resources for a possible war. Like issuing their own coins in nickel to accumulate the metal within the country for war time periods.

To keep up with the military numismatic class. I took the occasion to celebrate the ANA 50 year Summer Seminar by creating two "short-snorter" and have them authenticated by ANA. The first is a Japanese 50 sen note with the Yasukuni Temple on it, signed by our very own Fred and Joe. The second is a Japanese 10 yen (P51a) signed by ANA staff, famous numismatists at the seminars and all the participants at the military numismatic class.



I was also able to hunt down few more rarities of the now famous Allied Fest Certificates, either in class or at the banquet. Specimens, void, overprint "converted" on a star note, overprint "ANA" on a A00000001A note and a specimen 50 francs with



a printing error on the back stating "25 Francs"! The entire seminar is fun and through logic, stories, history, curiosities and numismatic tales, Fred and Joe take you on a fantastic journey. A journey made of a past that we all should not forget.

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## Editorial

I am very sorry about the lapse in Gram publication. In this case I had an abundance of material, I just could not get it all together. I have many things to report, but cannot think of many of them at the moment.

Here is a research question. Why is a World War II envelope (1944 postmark) sent from Christmas Island to the relay station on Fanning Island franked with a Gilbert and Ellice Islands stamp? If the envelope were going the other way, the postage would make sense. I do not have the answer to this. I am looking for help.

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Bill Myers,

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MPCKid (Harold)

Dear Kid,  
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Editor

Please sign me up for your MPCGram. I am a retired military veteran who served in Vietnam in 1969. My wife and I just recently started collecting MPC notes after final retirement from military/government work. David Seelye recommended your MPCGram when I recently bought several notes from him. I obtained a 1997 copy of your MPC book from a vintage collectors show here in Hawaii and have read it from front to back. It's fascinating information and I have learned a lot from it. Eventually, I'll get the 2004 version which I believe is the latest edition. Thanks and looking forward to the newsletter.

Sincerely,

Michael M

USAF, Retired

Dear Mike,

Welcome aboard! May I suggest that you borrow a copy of the fourth edition of the MPC book from the ANA library or even your local library. It has all of the info on multiple printing. You need that in today's market.

editor

Dear Editor,

I am very sad to report that Varleri May has gone to her reward on July 26 to join Leo. Her struggle was long and she fought hard.

Her daughters anticipate holding a memorial service in October. I hope to be able to notify Gramsters of the details.

Judy Schwan

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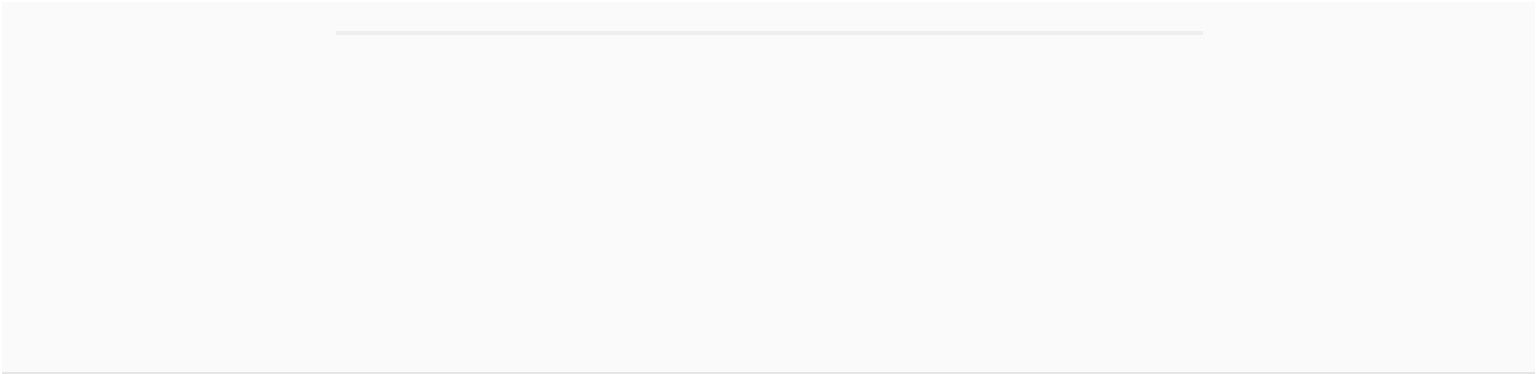
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MPC Gram Series 19 No. 2371



#### Inflation in China During World War II

by Bill Myers

At the beginning of the Second Sino-Japanese war in 1937 the Chinese notes available in circulation ranged from 1 to 500 yuan. By 1945 there were notes up to 5000 yuan and after that there were even higher denomination notes. This obviously represents the inflation that was created by the war.

I bought the July 1944 issue of *The American Magazine* because the cover shows a baby with toy blocks spelling out "BUY BONDS." Inside, starting on page 40, is an article entitled *So This Is Inflation!* by Karl Eskelund. The article showed the effect that inflation had on the Chinese people. He had lived in China since 1936 and left in 1944. He compared the situation when he left to that in 1938. He notes that prices were 200 to 500 times higher. He listed a few prices from 1944 which included a 5 pound tin of powdered milk cost 4000 yuan (200 USD) and a 1 pound tin of Australian butter cost 500 yuan (25 USD), prices that are high today. Shoes that cost 5 yuan (1 USD) in 1938 were 1000 yuan (50 USD) in 1944. Middle class Chinese who lived comfortably before the war were living in one room shacks with dirt floors and no heat and were struggling to buy food. The laborers did somewhat better, as there was a greater demand for their services, partly due to a building boom due to the war. Very few Chinese knew how to drive so truck drivers were in demand and they could supplement their income by smuggling.

The owners of large shops, hoarders, operators of second hand shops and black marketers did well. Shop owners held on to goods until the prices rose before they sold them and people were forced to sell belongings to buy food. For example a pack of cigarettes cost 10 USD and a bottle of whisky cost 250 USD. The author was a correspondent and was paid 300 USD per month which



converted into 9000 yuan but it cost 8000 yuan per month for food. His wife worked to supplement their income. He lived in a two room thatched hut that leaked, had no running water and shared a bathroom with 20 other people. When he could afford coal he could heat a room but it cost 40 USD per month for one room.

To leave China the author needed to raise 12,000 yuan for plane tickets for him and his wife to get to Calcutta. He sold an old aluminum pot for 15 USD, an old shirt for \$50 USD and a leather jacket, that cost \$30 USD in 1936 and was worn every day since then, went for \$100 USD.

Attempts by the government to control prices failed. The Chinese would say "only one thing is certain about tomorrow " prices will rise."

We have studied the notes which reflect the inflation but this article reflects the human side.

### POSTFest Excursion

MPCFest XX will be the greatest ever! As part of the extravaganza, Fest headquarters is considering options for a post Fest field exercise (aka trip). In 2018 Festers travelled to the United States Air Force Museum at Wright Patterson Air Force Base. This was the second such trip to that (great) museum. Headquarters is looking for ideas. One that has been discussed is a trip to Ottawa, Canada to visit the Bank of Canada museum (presumably an insider VIP visit) and the Canada War Museum and possibly Ottawa Mint as well.

Ottawa would clearly be a spectacular trip, but others are possible. Fest HQ and the Gram would like to hear from readers with other ideas and also from readers/Festers who are interested in a trip in general and in the Ottawa trip in general.

### Editorial

Here we are again, apologizing for missing Grams. There is of course, no excuse. I think that it is actually an astronomy issue. There is something going on that is accelerating time! The weeks scream past.

So here we are again. Because I have been negligent in publishing the Gram does not mean that there has not been a lot of activity. Far from it.

Work has been continuing on several book projects has continued. Discoveries have been made and of course lots of treasures have changed hands. I doubt if we will be able to catch up with the news that we have missed, but we certainly are going to work harder at getting the Gram out on a regular basis. I think that for the time being, I will work at getting back to a weekly Gram. Since today is Tuesday, I will aim at publication on Tuesdays. That seems like a reasonable approach. It allows news from weekend shows and the like to be reported then published.

So, please help us by sending us an item for next week. Letter, feature article or short research note.

### Letters to the editor

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Dear Gram,

Congratulations to the following festers who exhibited at the American Numismatic Association World's Fair of Money in Philadelphia August 2018.

Dan Freeland for receiving First place for "Selected Michigan Nationals From Charter 8723 in Class 2 United States, Fiscal Paper

Judy Schwan for receiving Second place for "The Baghdad Shilling" in Class 7 Engraved Coins, Love Token Society Award Numismatic, items that have been converted into jewelry, amulets, or decorative objects.

Fred Schwan for receiving Third place for "Newfoundland Trench Art" in Class 11 Numismatics of the Americas, Henry Christensen/John Jay Pittman Sr. Memorial, Numismatic material of any type issued or used in the Western Hemisphere outside the United States.

Brett Irick for receiving First place for "Pedigree Lost and Found: The Stories of two Canadian Victorian Ten Cent Coins" in Class 21 Emeritus, Barry Stuppler Award, Exhibits by individuals not otherwise eligible to exhibit competitively, or exhibits that have won best-of-show or twice won in class competition at the World's Fair of Money.

For those who are members of FUN and have read the Fall 2018 FUN TOPICS magazine, you saw the ANA Summer Seminar report by Fester Dave Frank on page 67. For those who do not get the magazine Dave was awarded the FUN scholarship to the ANA Summer Seminar and took the Detection of Counterfeit and Altered Coins course. HOOAH.

Myers

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[Davideseelye@gmail.com](mailto:Davideseelye@gmail.com).



Great pair of Japanese War bonds. The pair for \$30 (three pair available).  
[Fredschwan@yahoo.com](mailto:Fredschwan@yahoo.com).

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Columnist at large: Bill Myers

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Fest auctioneer: Dave Frank - [dave@frankcomputers.com](mailto:dave@frankcomputers.com)

Fest yearbook editor and photographers: Kris and Cuneyd Tolek - [ctolek@yahoo.com](mailto:ctolek@yahoo.com)

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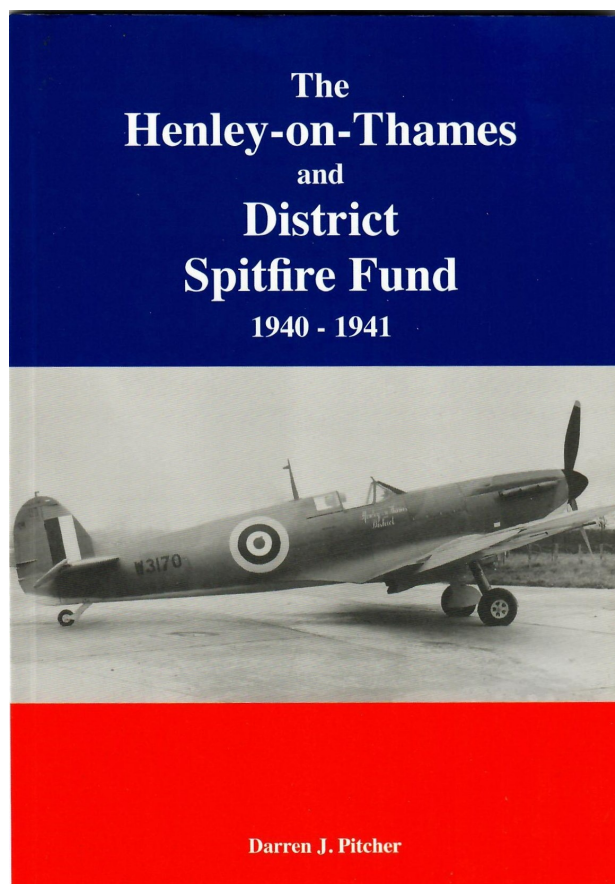


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**MPC Gram Series 20 No. 2372--Veterans Day**  
**The Henley-on-Thames and District Spitfire Fund 1940-1941**



by Bill Myers

I bought the 48 page book by Darren J. Pitcher titled *The Henley-on-Thames and District Spitfire Fund 1940-1941* (2008). It is a detailed description on how Henley-on-Thames and District (37 miles west of London, population just under 9000 in 1940) raised £5000 to buy a spitfire and have the town's name put on it.

The book starts out with a short history of the Spitfire and presentation aircraft. Presentation Spitfires required a donation of £5000, which equates to £200,000 when the book was published, and the donor's name is put on the aircraft. It discusses how the town approved and organized the Spitfire Fund. It was not unanimously supported as some citizens felt that they should support non-government funded charities like the Red Cross, but it was approved.

The book then discussed how donations were solicited. Donations from individuals and business were collected and the book has all of the names and the amounts donated. I assume there were receipts for the donations. There was a raffle for a 1937 Ford 8 hp saloon car (a closed body and trunk that are separated from the passenger section - a sedan), which was won by Miss Norton. I believe 8 hp refers to the V8 engine, not its power, as 60 and 85 horse power models were made. A ticket cost 2 shillings 6 pence. There was a gift raffle which cost 6 pence a ticket. Items were donated and winners were drawn and the book lists all of the winners and the prizes. Other methods to raise funds included dances, concerts, raffles, football (soccer) games and rummage sales. There were also donations to see several unexploded German incendiary bombs and admission to see a German Messerschmidt Bf109 that was shot down. There was a plan to sell miniature spitfires to raise money, but there was an unexploded bomb near the factory that made miniature spitfires and the factory could not be entered. Small spitfires were cut from colored paper and a pin placed in them as a substitute.

On 10 January 1941 a check for £5,175 was sent to the Minister of Aircraft Production. An additional £25 was sent after this so the total was £5,200. The town received a plaque that states "In the hour of peril people of Henley-on-Thames and District earned the gratitude of the British Nations sustaining the valour of the Royal Air Force and fortifying the cause of freedom by the gift of Spitfire aircraft. They shall mount up with wings as eagles. Issued by the Ministry of Aircraft Production 1941."

The last part of the book details the history of the Henley-on-Thames and District Spitfire. The Spitfire was assigned to a unit on 16 May 1941 and started flying missions on 25 May 1941. It sustained damage on the ground three times but it could be repaired and it kept flying. On 5 April 1942 it ran off the runway in poor weather and the left wing was torn off and its career ended.

This book essentially dissects the anatomy of the spitfire fund and shows the human effort that it required. Of course there needs to be a Military Numismatic connection and many of the events used to raise funds produced tickets, so I feel the criteria has been met. I have not been able to find any the tickets but I would bet there are some out there in a museum, a scrap book or hidden in the back of a drawer waiting to be discovered.

## Editorial

Veterans' Day is a very special holiday for the Gram. In fact it is the most important holiday for the Gram. The very nature of the holiday seems to fit with the mission of the Gram. It is such a good fit that our publishing year is measured from Veterans' Day to Veterans' Day. This idea was suggested many years ago by Gramster Brad Peacock. Thank you Brad.

This year Veteran's Day will be unlike any other. With this issue, we start out twentieth year of publication. How can it be? It does not seem possible, but it is true. We can and should be proud of what we have accomplished in the Gram.

While the above is certainly true, this Veterans' Day is special for far greater reasons. Sunday 11 November is the 100th anniversary of the event that started the holiday. The Great War, World War I ended at 1100 11 November 1918. For me this will make Sunday a very special day of reflection.

For many years I restricted my numismatic collections to the military items (defined broadly as only I can do) to World War II and beyond. I carefully avoided World War I. I did not even want to learn about the numismatic items or the war because I had too much to do. Too much to study. Too much to collect from WWII and beyond.

I could not take the pressure of the 100th anniversary of the Great War. I now collect too many things of the World War I and well as World War II.

Please take a few moments on Sunday to reflect on those many millions who have served over the past 100 years and more.

We have also regularly pointed out to Veteran readers that many restaurants give free meals to Veterans on the 11th. Applebee's is a favorite of the boss and me. That is because it was the first such place with such an offer that we visited. May I suggest that if you are a veteran that you go out on Sunday and enjoy the recognition. Perhaps even better, if you are not a veteran, you can (should) still go to one of these places and look for veterans to thank.

## Letters to the editor

We invite letters on a wide variety of subjects relating to military numismatics. We reserve the right to edit letters to correct obvious errors or to meet Gram editorial standards.

Dear Gram,

I got an E-mail from the American Numismatic Association that informed me that the November 2018 issue of The Numismatist was available to view on line. The cover has "Baghdad Shilling & More, Numismatic Trench Art of the Great War." There was no author listed but I know who it was. I had to read the article right away. The article is on pages 32 to 39 and is authored by the Battalion Clerk Fred Schwan. I have heard Fred talk about the Baghdad Shilling before but the article had new information for me. I enjoyed reading it and recommend it as a must read for all festers. Could there be questions from the article at the next Military Numismatic Trivia Championship....possibly. HOOAH to Fred for great article and for being on the front cover.

Myers

Dear First Sergeant,

Thank you for your comments and as it turns out news. Your email was the first notice that I had that the November Numismatist was actually in the hands of members. I knew that it had gone to press and I was keenly waiting for a copy to arrive in my mail box.

I rather expected that the magazine would arrive on Thursday (tomorrow as this is being written) because I will be out of town on Thursday and Friday and perhaps even Saturday so that I may not receive mine until Monday.

Then I looked at your message again and saw that the magazine is not actually in your hands. Instead you looked at it on line. Well, that was another reason for aggravation. I did not recall receiving a notice that the electronic version was available although I remember receiving such messages in the past. I just knew that I would not be able to look at the magazine on line because I have been down that road before. In the past I received the electronic notices on Saturday afternoon and could neither open the magazine nor call someone for help. When Monday came around, the staff was always happy to help me, but it all was, as I said, aggravating.

So with trepidation I went to the computer to give it a try. Oh my. False alarm. All went far better than I could have hoped! I went to money.org and without too much difficulty found the place to login. Then miracle of miracles--the computer remembered both my login AND password. It also showed me the login--I never would have REMEMBERED that.

Of course I have read the article, but I turned right to it to see how it looked. Wow, the magazine staff did a great job!

Editor

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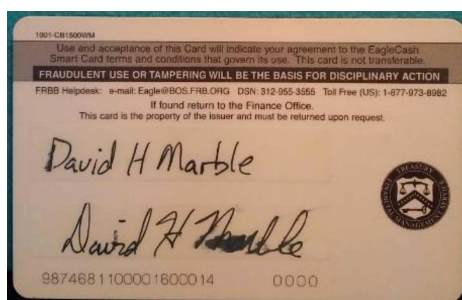
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**MPC Gram Series 20 No. 2373**  
23 December 2018

**Modern Military Pay**



by David Marble

I've been a reader of the MPC Gram for roughly 15 years on and off and really enjoy every article; however, I don't remember seeing any articles about military pay from my generation. Here's an attempt to bring you all up to speed from my perspective.

I joined the USAF in 1999 and my first experience with military pay was when I was issued a \$250 NationsBank Visa Cash Card. This card was given to everyone at basic military training at Lackland to cover initial expenses such as haircuts and buying toiletries. It was a cash advance on your first month's pay and had your name, Social Security Number, and flight number on the card. The card had no magnetic strip on the back, but instead used a chip (this was the first time I remember seeing a card with a chip). It came in a little folder which listed locations on base that accepted the card, how to use it, and the card agreement. If you spent your entire balance the cashier would keep your card and dispose of it (not sure how). Being the collector that I was at the time, I decided to keep a small balance on my card so I could save it for posterity.



My future pay and allowances were direct deposited to my checking account. My recruiter told me that I needed a checking account before I went to basic, so I signed up for one at my local credit union shortly before leaving for Lackland. I had a debit card, but no checks. When I got to basic, the finance personnel made me open another account with the bank on base (I



don't remember which one). Their rationale was that since I didn't have checks and I might forget my PIN, I'd potentially be unable to access my money. I didn't want to open a new account, but you'd be told in basic training.

After basic, every month I'd receive my Leave and Earnings Statement (LES) from the orderly room throughout Tech School and at my first base. I believe sometime around 2002 or 2003 the USAF did away with paper copies of the LES and mandated the use of myPay (<https://mypay.dfas.mil/mypay.aspx>) to access your LES. Today, in addition to your LES, you can access your W2, Personal Statement of Military Compensation, Savings Deposit Program, Thrift Savings Plan (TSP), make changes to allotments, and much more.

When deployed to the Middle East, the USAF requires its members to sign up for an Eagle Cash Card. It's much like the NationsBank Visa Cash Card that I received in Basic. You link it to your checking or savings account back home and can transfer money back and forth as needed. It's accepted by all vendors on base (AAFES, Post Office, movie theater, the bar, souvenir shops, etc); you can even do card-to-card transfers. The USAF claims use of Eagle Cash Cards minimize the risk of your credit/debit cards being compromised, but I think they want to help agencies on base save the percentages charged to merchants by the credit card companies. While deployed, I've also used the AAFES Pogs; however, the Eagle Cash Card significantly cuts down on your opportunity to receive them as you get back no change.

Another benefit of deployments is the Savings Deposit Program. Thirty days after arriving in theater, you can deposit up to \$10,000 into an account that earns 10% interest. You continue to accrue interest ninety days after returning home. This money is taxed; however, your regular pay and allowances are not taxed.

TDYs (Temporary Duty) and PCSs (Permanent Change of Station) are another opportunity to experience the modern military pay system. When I first joined the USAF, someone would cut your orders and help you file a travel voucher when you returned. Today we log into the Defense Travel System website (<https://www.defensetravel.osd.mil/>) and create our own travel orders, book airline tickets and lodging, and then file a voucher upon return. There are squadron, base, and AF level finance professionals to assist, approve, and audit both orders and travel vouchers. The Government Travel Cards (GTC) is a major part of this process as its use is required for all travel and lodging expenses. Typically at your first duty location, you are required to fill out a GTC application and take some computer based training outlining the rules. During longer periods of travel, an accrual voucher is required to pay off your GTC. GTC delinquencies are always a high interest item during commander staff meetings and an excellent way to highlight one's self in a negative way. Personally, I'd prefer to use my own credit card so I can get the rewards; however, rules are rules. I'm sure someone got kickbacks somewhere along the line when they came up with this program.

Looking at the military finance system of my generation I fear there is not much to collect. Other than a few AAFES Pogs, some short snorters, and a couple of bank cards there's not much numismatic related memorabilia to show for a career. I'm sure that these items are already a rarity as most folks destroy their old cards and have never heard of a short snorter. Regardless, I'll continue to collect the treasures from previous generations while saving the few mementos of mine.

## Fest 20 Theme

World War II in North America will be the official theme for MPCFest 20. The theme is in various ways at the Fest. Some Festers select a topic for their staff briefing considering the theme. The annual national championship questions always emphasize the theme and Fest notes, challenge coins and other items frequently use the theme. Comments from Festers (or non or future Festers) should be sent to the editor.

## Editorial

Here I am again apologizing for a long break in Gram publishing. See the letters section for more on this. That allows me to ramble about some other things.

First, we are in the midst of the holiday season. Judy, aka The Boss, and I wish each and every one of you a great holiday week followed by the new year. I am certain that 2019 is going to be a great year for military numismatics. First, of course there are the things that we can control like MPCFest and the Gram. Then there are the surprises that always come along.

Fest preparations have started. Previously, here in the Gram, I asked if any Festers were interesting in a post Fest field trip to Ottawa to visit the Bank of Canada and Canadian War Museum. I did not get a single response although I did ask to Festers personally, and they were both interested. On the one hand, the lack of response seems to mean no, but on the other hand the idea trip would probably be four Festers so three (including me) is close. Needless to say, if you are interested, please let me know.

## Letters to the editor

We invite letters on a wide variety of subjects relating to military numismatics. We reserve the right to edit letters to correct obvious errors or to meet Gram editorial standards.

Dear Editor,

I don't mean to be a pest about this but is there anything I can do to help get the Gram out more consistently. It is the best way to advertise the Fest and I think part of the decline in attendance can be attributed to the lack of the Gram.

I made contact with a woman recently who is a militaria collector who sounds interested in coming to Fest. Having the Gram out there will make it easier to recruit her and others.

Name Withheld

Dear Name Withheld,

Thank you for your frank comments. I believe that they are right on. The buck stops here, but there are things that can and should be done.

The heyday of the Gram was when we had three weekly columnists (Boling, Smulczewski, and Talso). Their submissions were great--and they were regular. With those columns as the base it was relatively easy to have three or more Grams per week. Show reports and other news were used to supplement the columns. I do not think that we should even try to get back to that schedule, but we really do need to have a Gram every week. It would be great to develop a rotation of three or four columnists whose work would rotate. The Fellers have agreed to do this and have even submitted material in advance. In fact they submitted too much too far in advance for your editor to keep up with it!

Another change that has slowed things is the inclusion of images. For thousands of Grams we complained constantly about the lack of images. Now we can (and should) have images, but the complexity has greatly increased. The complexity compounds the problem of a bungling editor and somewhat antiquated equipment here at Gram HQ. I checked the budget for upgrades and found that funds will not be available until ca 2035.

There are many technical aspects. Look at the leads to the various sections of the Gram. Are they centered? Are they bold? They were created that way and should be because those features make reading much easier. However, when I sent a draft of this Gram to myself, these lines were NOT centered and were not bold. I fussed with it, but gave up.

I believe that we can find the needed columnists. About the only requirement for a Gram columnist (beyond the basic computer and email requirements) is to be interested in the field of military numismatics. A columnist could be an oldtimer (like the former columnists mentioned above) or brand new collectors who are full of more questions than answers.

Editor

Dear Editor.

Someone asked me for the 2019 MCP Fest dates. Could you supply me with them.

Thanks,  
Tom

Dear Tom,  
Fest XX will be the first weekend of May 2019. We hope to see you and your friend here.

Editor

Dear Editor,

If you will be at FUN in JAN 2019 there will be the IBNS meeting on Saturday 12 JAN 19 at 1100 in room W303A. The MPC mini-fest will follow that meeting (scheduled for 1200). Bring a show and tell and your paybook to the meeting. Please pass this on to other festers you know who will be there.

Bill Myers

Dear Bill,

Thanks for the notice. It looks like there will be a nice group of Festers there. We will look forward to a show report and miniFest report too!

Editor

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2019

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March 14-16 PCDA Chicago details needed

March 28-30 ANA National Money Show details TBA

April 12-14 Ontario Numismatic Association convention, Valkenburg, Michigan State

April 24-29 Central States Numismatic Society, Schaumburg, IL, details needed

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I have several copies of Fred's 4th edition available at \$50 post paid USA only. [Davideseelye@gmail.com](mailto:Davideseelye@gmail.com).

Selling most of my WWII collection. Pay by check or Paypal. Postage: USA, \$2.00; International, \$3.50. The items will be mailed via regular postage, at buyers risk, to keep postage cost low. I'm not a big fan of insurance, and not concerned when selling to "gramsters". However, if you are concerned about the USPS and international service, please add sufficient funds for insurance (or registration for international) and advise how you want them shipped. Scans of items are available. Will consider offers if not sold in week. Ron Waddell Email: [ronw1935@msn.com](mailto:ronw1935@msn.com).

### **AUSTRIA**

1. One Reichsmark, SB-352, P-113b, Russian Occupation. UNC, \$25.00

### **BELGIUM**

2. 100 Francs, SB-NL, P-123, 1-2-1943. WWII Issue. Nice VF+, \$10.00
3. Five Francs, SB-102, P-121. VF+, \$4.00
4. Ten Francs, SB-103, P-122. UNC, \$8.00
5. One Franc, SB-131a, P-M1a, Armee Belge. UNC, \$100.00
6. Five Francs, SB-133a, P-M3a, Armee Belge. XF/AU, \$75.00
7. Pipaix 10 Centimes, SB-1060, P-NL. UNC, \$15.00
8. Pipaix One Franc, SB-1063, P-NL. UNC, \$17.50
9. Pipaix Two Francs, SB-1064, P-NL. UNC, \$20.00
10. Wingene 50 Francs, SB-1673, P-NL. UNC, \$60.00
11. Gent 20 Francs, SB-2061, P-NL. UNC, \$22.50

### **BOHEMIA & MORAVIA**

12. One Koruna, SB-401a, P-1a (with stamp). VF, \$5.00
13. One Koruna, SB-403a, P-3a. UNC, \$12.50
14. 100 Korun, SB-410b, P-7a. UNC, \$35.00
15. 500 Korun, SB-411s, P-11s (Specimen). UNC, \$17.50
16. 1000 Korun, SB-415s, P-14s (Specimen). AU/UNC (corner bend), \$20.00



17. 1000 Korun, SB-414, P-15. UNC, \$45.00

BULGARIA

18. 250 Leva, SB-NL, P-65a, WWII issue. UNC, \$50.00

19. 500 Leva, SB-NL, P-66a, WWII issue. XF, \$25.00

BURMA

20. One Rupee, SB-603b, P-25b. AU+, \$30.00

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